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Chari et al.

(54) CYTOTOXIC BENZODIAZEPINE DERIVATIVES

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- (51) Int. Cl.

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 C07D 519/00 (2006.01)

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 C07D 487/04 (2006.01)

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(52) **U.S. Cl.**

CPC A61K 47/48723 (2013.01); C07D 487/04 (2013.01); C07D 519/00 (2013.01)

(58) Field of Classification Search

None

See application file for complete search history.

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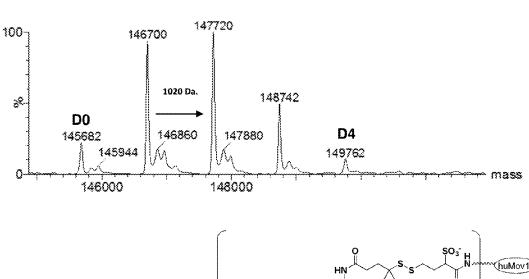
(57) ABSTRACT

The invention relates to novel benzodiazepine derivatives with antiproliferative activity and more specifically to novel benzodiazepine compounds of formula (I)-(VII). The invention also provides conjugates of the benzodiazepine compounds linked to a cell-binding agent. The invention further provides compositions and methods useful for inhibiting abnormal cell growth or treating a proliferative disorder in a mammal using the compounds or conjugates of the invention.

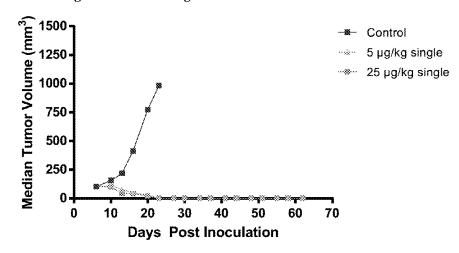
20 Claims, 19 Drawing Sheets

FIG. 1

MS for deglycosylated huMov19-sulfo-SPDB-1d Conjugate



 $FIG.\ 2$ $Anti-Tumor\ Activity\ (Median\ Tumor\ Volume,\ mm^3)\ of\ huMOV19-sulfo-SPDB-1d\ in\ SCID$ $Mice\ Bearing\ NCI-H2110\ Xenografts$



	Treatment Group	Dose	T/C	Regressions		Result
		(ug/kg)	(Day 23)	PR	CR	
A	Control	-	-	ŀ	-	+
В	huMov19-sulfo- SPDB-1d	5	0%	6/6	6/6	Highly Active
С	huMov19-sulfo- SPDB-1d	25	0%	6/6	6/6	Highly Active

FIG. 3

MS for deglycosylated huML66-sulfo-SPDB-1d Conjugate

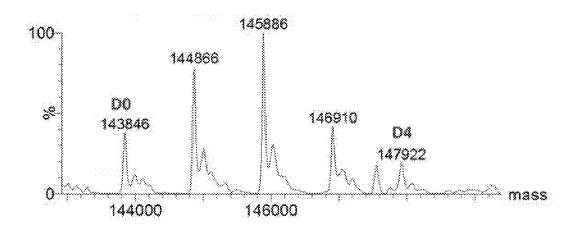


FIG. 4

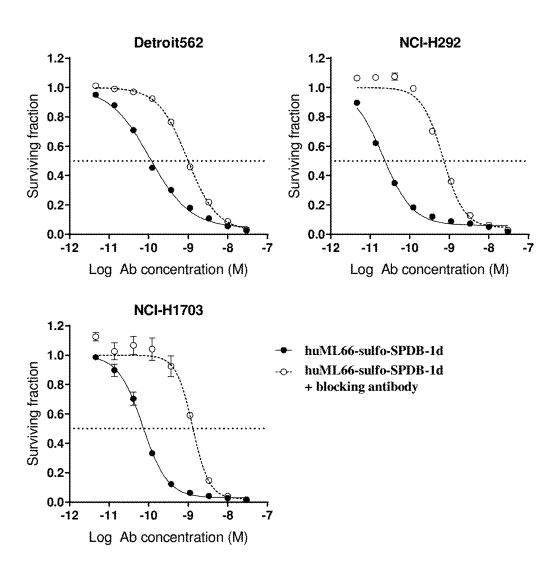
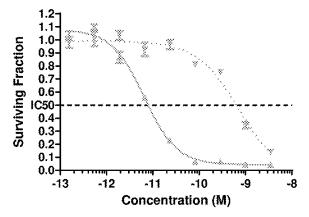


FIG. 5

Potency of huMOV19-sulfo-SPDB-1d conjugate on KB cells -/+ 1 μM huMOV19 antibody blocking 1000 cells/ well, 5 day continuous, 2 hr WST-8



- huMOV19-sulfo-SPDB-1d (2.5 DAR)
- huMOV19-sulfo-SPDB-1d + Blocking Antibody

FIG. 6

Potency of huMOV19-sulfo-SPDB-1d on NCI-H2110 cells

-/+ 1 $\mu M \, \rm hu MOV 19$ blocking antibody 2000 cells/ well, 5 day continuous, 3 hr WST-8

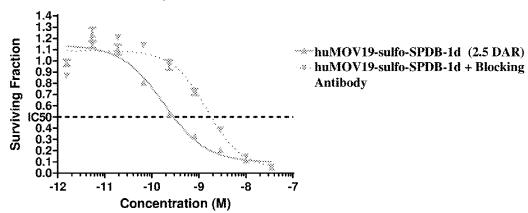


FIG. 7

Potency of huMOV19-sulfo-SPDB-1d on T47D cells

-/+ 1 $\mu M \, {\rm huMOV19}$ blocking antibody 2000 cells/ well, 6 day continuous incubation, Alamar Blue O/N

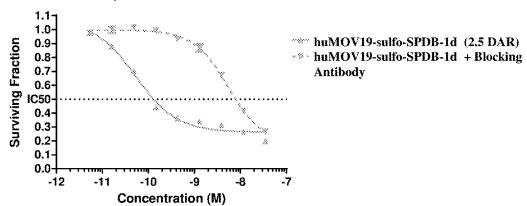


FIG. 8

huMOV19-sulfo-SPDB-1d

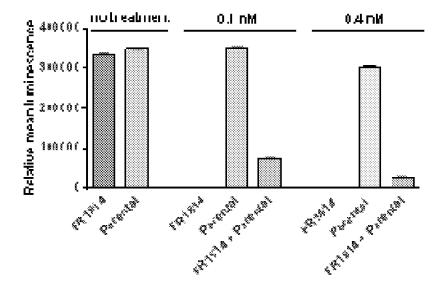
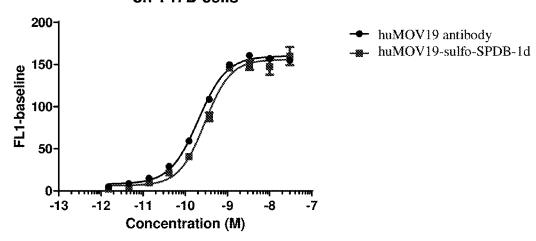


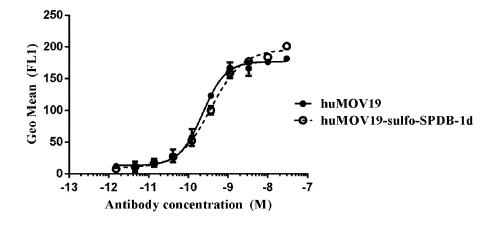
FIG. 9A

Binding of huMOV19-sulfo-SPDB-1d Conjugate on T47D cells

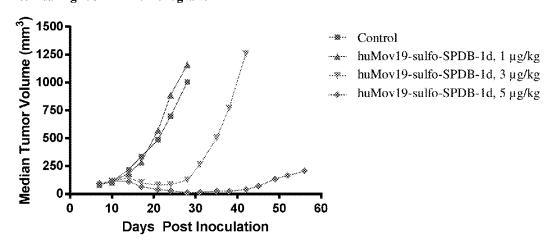


	huMOV19 antibody	huMOV19-sulfo-SPDB-1d
EC50	2.034e-010	2.912e-010

FIG. 9B



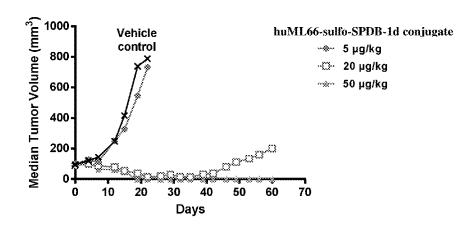
 $FIG.\ 10$ Anti-Tumor Activity (Median Tumor Volume, mm³) of huMov19-sulfo-SPDB-1d in SCID Mice Bearing NCI-H2110 Xenografts



	Treatment Group	Dose	T/C	Regressions		Result
		(µg/kg)	(Day 28)	PR	CR	
A	Control	•	3	,	•	~
В	huMov19-sulfo-SPDB-1d	1	116%	0/6	0/6	Inactive
С	huMov19-sulfo-SPDB-1d	3	12%	0/6	0/6	Active
D	huMov19-sulfo-SPDB-1d	5	1%	6/6	3/6	Highly Active

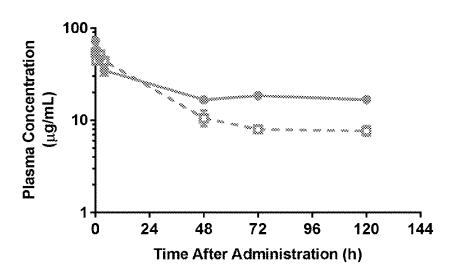
FIG. 11

Anti-Tumor Activity (Median Tumor Volume, mm³) of huML66-sulfo-SPDB-1d Conjugate in SCID Mice Bearing NCI-H1703 Xenografts



Agent	Compound 1d dose (µg/kg)	Ab dose (mg/k g)	T/C (%)	CR	Results
huML66-sulfo-SPDB-1d	5	0.3	74	0/6	inactive
	20	1.2	5	3/6	highly active
	50	2.9	0	6/6	highly active

FIG. 12
Pharmacokinetics of huMov19-sulfo-SPDB-1d Conjugate in CD-1 Mice



- huMov19-sulfo-SPDB-1d Total Ab
- huMov19-sulfo-SPDB-1d Conjugate

FIG. 13

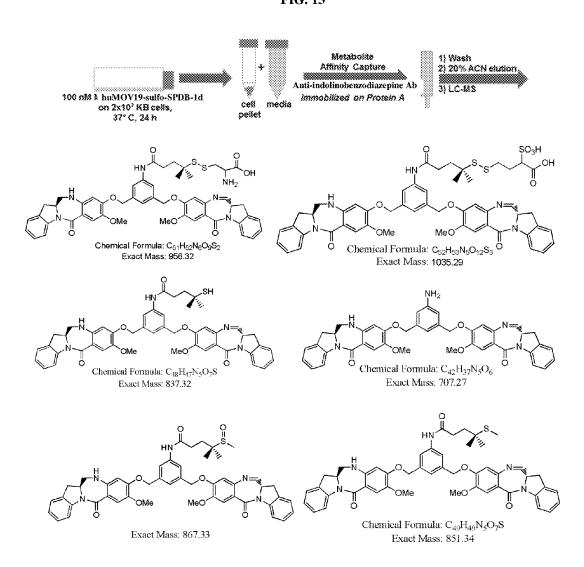


FIG. 14A Ishikawa cells

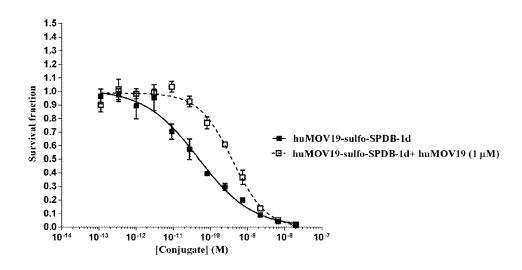


FIG. 14B KB cells

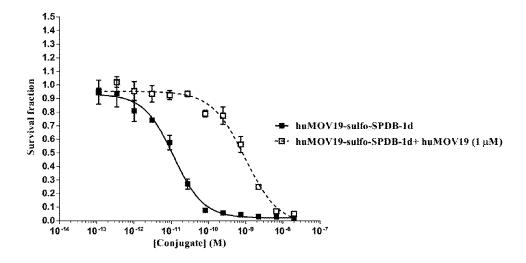


FIG. 14C NCI-H2110 cells

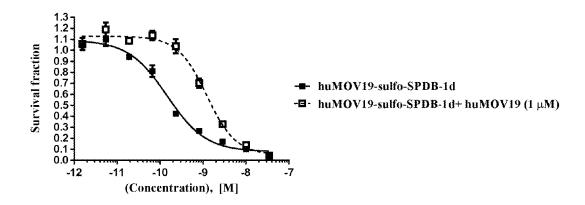


FIG. 14D T47D cells

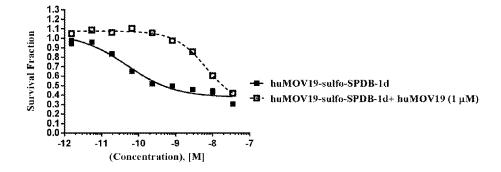
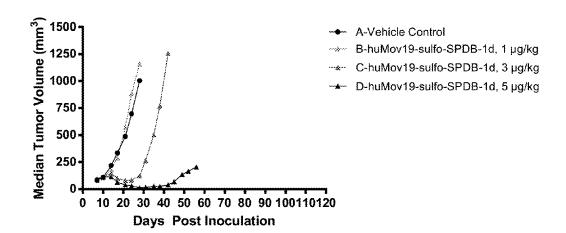
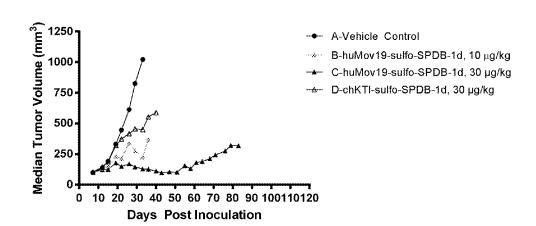


FIG. 15



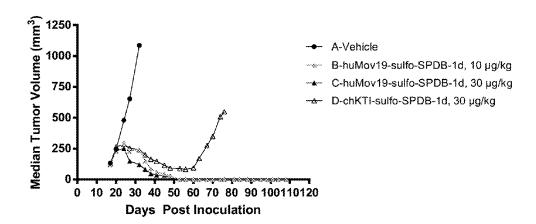
	Treatment Group	Dose (µg/kg)	T/C	Regressions		Result	
		\r\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\	(Day 24)	PR	CR		
A	Vehicle Control	-	-	-	-	-	
В	huMov19-sulfo-SPDB-1d	1	127%	0/6	0/6	Inactive	
С	huMov19-sulfo-SPDB-1d	3	12%	0/6	0/6	Active	
D	huMov19-sulfo-SPDB-1d	5	4%	6/6	3/6	Highly Active	

FIG. 16



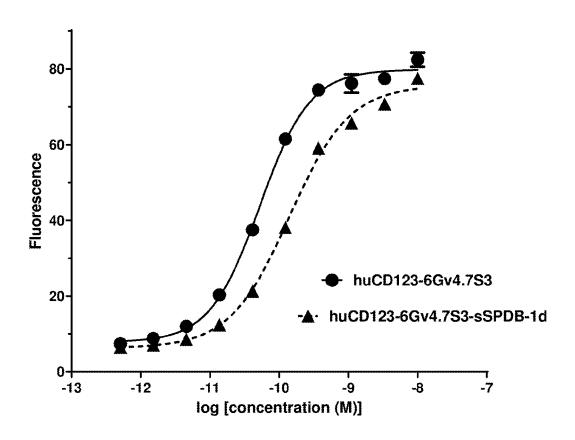
	Treatment Group	Dose	T/C	Regressions		Result
		(µg/kg)	(Day 33)	PR	CR	
Α	Vehicle Control	-	1	1	1	ı
В	huMov19-sulfo-SPDB-1d	10	22%	0/6	0/6	Active
C	huMov19-sulfo-SPDB-1d	30	13%	1/6	1/6	Active
D	chKTI-sulfo-SPDB-1d	30	44%	0/6	0/6	Inactive

FIG. 17



	Treatment Group	Dose	T/C	Regressions		Result
		(µg/kg)	(Day 32)	PR	CR	
Α	Vehicle Control	-	-	-	1	-
В	huMov19-sulfo-SPDB-1d	10	23%	6/6	6/6	Active
C	huMov19-sulfo-SPDB-1d	30	11%	6/6	6/6	Active
D	chKTI-sulfo-SPDB-1d	30	22%	3/6	0/6	Active

FIG. 18



CYTOTOXIC BENZODIAZEPINE DERIVATIVES

REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application claims the benefit of the filing date under 35 U.S.C. §119(e), of U.S. Provisional Application No. 62/045,236, filed on Sep. 3, 2014, U.S. Provisional Application No. 62/087,065, filed on Dec. 3, 2014, U.S. Provisional Application No. 62/149,409, filed on Apr. 17, 2015, and U.S. 10 Provisional Application No. 62/164,352, filed on May 20, 2015, the entire contents of each of which, including all drawings, formulae, specifications, and claims, are incorporated herein by reference.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to novel cytotoxic compounds, and cytotoxic conjugates comprising these cytotoxic compounds and cell-binding agents. More specifically, this 20 invention relates to novel benzodiazepine compounds, derivatives thereof, intermediates thereof, conjugates thereof, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, which are useful as medicaments, in particular as anti-proliferative agents.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Benzodiazepine derivatives are useful compounds for treating various disorders, and include medicaments such as, antiepileptics (imidazo[2,1-b][1,3,5]benzothiadiazepines, 30 U.S. Pat. No. 4,444,688; U.S. Pat. No. 4,062,852), antibacterials (pyrimido[1,2-c][1,3,5]benzothiadiazepines, GB 1476684), diuretics and hypotensives (pyrrolo(1,2-b)[1,2,5] benzothiadiazepine 5,5 dioxide, U.S. Pat. No. 3,506,646), hypolipidemics (WO 03091232), anti-depressants (U.S. Pat. No. 3,453,266), osteoporosis (JP 2138272).

It has been shown in animal tumor models that benzodiazepine derivatives, such as pyrrolobenzodiazepines (PBDs), act as anti-tumor agents (N-2-imidazolyl alkyl substituted 40 1,2,5-benzothiadiazepine-1,1-dioxide, U.S. Pat. No. 6,156, 746), benzo-pyrido or dipyrido thiadiazepine (WO 2004/069843), pyrrolo[1,2-b][1,2,5]benzothiadiazepines and pyrrolo[1,2-b][1,2,5]benzodiazepine derivatives (WO2007/015280), tomaymycin derivatives (e.g., pyrrolo[1,4] benzodiazepines), such as those described in WO 00/12508, WO2005/085260, WO2007/085930, and EP 2019104. Benzodiazepines are also known to affect cell growth and differ-

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entiation (Kamal A., et al., Bioorg Med Chem. 2008 Aug. 15; 16(16):7804-10 (and references cited therein); Kumar R, Mini Rev Med Chem. 2003 June; 3(4):323-39 (and references cited therein); Bednarski J J, et al., 2004; Sutter A. P, et al., 2002; Blatt N B, et al., 2002), Kamal A. et al., Current Med. Chem., 2002; 2; 215-254, Wang J-J., J. Med. Chem., 2206; 49:1442-1449, Alley M. C. et al., Cancer Res. 2004; 64:6700-6706, Pepper C. J., Cancer Res 2004; 74:6750-6755, Thurston D. E. and Bose D. S., Chem Rev 1994; 94:433-465; and Tozuka, Z., et al., Journal of Antibiotics, (1983) 36; 1699-1708. General structure of PBDs is described in US Publication Number 20070072846. The PBDs differ in the number, type and position of substituents, in both their aromatic A 15 rings and pyrrolo C rings, and in the degree of saturation of the C ring. Their ability to form an adduct in the minor groove and crosslink DNA enables them to interfere with DNA processing, hence their potential for use as antiproliferative agents.

The first pyrrolobenzodiazepine to enter the clinic, SJG-136 (NSC 694501) is a potent cytotoxic agent that causes DNA inter-strand crosslinks (S. G Gregson et al., 2001, J. Med. Chem., 44: 737-748; M. C. Alley et al., 2004, Cancer Res., 64: 6700-6706; J. A. Hartley et al., 2004, Cancer Res., 64: 6693-6699; C. Martin et al., 2005, Biochemistry., 44: 4135-4147; S. Arnould et al., 2006, Mol. Cancer Ther., 5: 1602-1509). Results from a Phase I clinical evaluation of SJG-136 revealed that this drug was toxic at extremely low doses (maximum tolerated dose of 45 µg/m², and several adverse effects were noted, including vascular leak syndrome, peripheral edema, liver toxicity and fatigue. DNA damage was noted at all doses in circulating lymphocytes (D. Hochhauser et al., 2009, Clin. Cancer Res., 15: 2140-2147). Thus, there exists a need for improved benzodiazepine derivatives that are less toxic and still therapeutically active for treating a variety of proliferative disease states, such as cancer.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The novel cytotoxic benzodiazepine dimer compounds described herein and conjugates thereof have unexpectedly higher therapeutic index (ratio of maximum tolerated dose to minimum effective dose) in vivo compared to benzodiazepine derivatives and conjugates thereof described in the art.

Thus, provided herein are novel cytotoxic benzodiazepine dimer compounds represented by any one of the following formulas:

-continued

$$\begin{array}{c} O \\ R^e \\ N \\ \end{array}$$

-continued

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

the double line == between N and C represents a single bond or a double bond, provided that when it is a double bond, 20 X is absent and Y is —H, and when it is a single bond, X is selected from —H, or an amine protecting group;

Y is selected from —H, —OR, —OCOR', —SR, —NR'R", —SO₃M, —SO₂M or —OSO₃M, wherein M is —H or a cation:

R is —H, an optionally substituted linear, branched or cyclic alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl having from 1 to 10 carbon atoms or a PEG group — $(CH_2CH_2O)_n$ — R^c , wherein n is an integer from 1 to 24, and R^c is a linear or branched alkyl having 1 to 4 carbon atoms;

R' and R" are the same or different, and are selected from —H, —OR, —NRR^{g'}, —COR, an optionally substituted linear, branched or cyclic alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl having from 1 to 10 carbon atoms, an optionally substituted aryl having from 6 to 18 carbon atoms, an optionally substituted 3- to 18-membered heterocyclic ring having 1 to 6 heteroatoms

selected from O, S, N and P, a PEG group — $(CH_2CH_2O)_n$ — R^c , wherein n is an integer from 1 to 24, preferably n is 2, 4 or 8; and $R^{g'}$ is —H, an optionally substituted linear, branched or cyclic alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl having from 1 to 10 carbon atoms or a PEG group — $(CH_2CH_2O)_n$ — R^c ;

X' is selected from the group consisting of —H, —OH, an optionally substituted linear, branched or cyclic alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl having from 1 to 10 carbon atoms, phenyl, and an amine-protecting group;

Y' is selected from the group consisting of —H, an oxo group, an optionally substituted linear, branched or cyclic alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl having from 1 to 10 carbon atoms;

 R^x is a linear or branched alkylene having 1 to 6 carbon atoms, optionally substituted with a charged substituent or an ionizable group Q;

 \mathbb{R}^e is —H or a linear or branched alkyl having 1 to 6 carbon atoms;

G is selected from —CH— or —N—;

 Z^s is —H, —SR^d, —COR^{d'} or is selected from any one of the following formulas:

$$\begin{picture}(0,0) \put(0,0){\line(0,0){100}} \put(0,0){\line(0,0){100}$$

$$(a5')$$
 $(CH_2)_q$
 $OE;$

$$^{\text{constant}}$$
 $^{\text{constant}}$ $^{\text{$

-continued

$$(a13')$$

$$(a14')$$

$$OE;$$

40

wherein:

q is an integer from 1 to 5;

 \mathbb{R}^d is a linear or branched alkyl having 1 to 6 carbon atoms or is selected from phenyl, nitrophenyl, dinitrophenyl, carboxynitrophenyl, pyridyl and nitropyridyl;

 $R^{d'}$ is a linear or branched alkyl having 1 to 6 carbon atoms; n' is an integer from 2 to 6;

—C(\Longrightarrow O)OE represents a reactive ester group; and M is H $^+$ or a cation, provided that the compound is not

In one embodiment, the reactive ester group represented by —C(—O)OE is selected from N-hydroxysuccinimide ester, N-hydroxysulfosuccinimide ester, nitrophenyl (e.g., 2 or 4-nitrophenyl) ester, dinitrophenyl (e.g., 2,4-dinitrophenyl) ester, sulfo-tetrafluorophenyl (e.g., 4-sulfo-2,3,5,6-tetrafluorophenyl) ester, and pentafluorophenyl ester.

In one embodiment, for compounds of structural formulas (I), (II), (III), (IV), (V) and (VI), Z^s is represented by the following structural formulas:

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$$\operatorname{\mathsf{props}}^{\mathsf{props}}(\mathrm{CH}_2)_q \xrightarrow{\mathrm{N}} \operatorname{\mathsf{H}}^{\mathsf{N}} = \operatorname{\mathsf{L}}^{\mathsf{N}}(\mathrm{CH}_2)_q \xrightarrow{\mathrm{N}} \operatorname{\mathsf{L}}^{\mathsf{N}}(\mathrm{CH}_2)_q \xrightarrow{\mathrm{L}} \operatorname{\mathsf{L}}^{\mathsf{N}}(\mathrm{CH}_2)_q \xrightarrow{\mathrm{L}} \operatorname{\mathsf{L}}^{\mathsf{N}}(\mathrm{CH}_2)_q \xrightarrow{\mathrm{L}} \operatorname{\mathsf{L}}^{\mathsf{N}}(\mathrm{CH}_2)_q \xrightarrow{\mathrm{L}} \operatorname{\mathsf{L}}^{\mathsf{N}}(\mathrm{CH}_2)_q \xrightarrow{\mathrm{L}} \operatorname{\mathsf{L}}^{\mathsf{N}}(\mathrm{CH}_2)_q \xrightarrow{\mathrm{L}} \operatorname{\mathsf{L}}^{\mathsf{N}}(\mathrm{CH}_2)_q \xrightarrow{\mathsf{L}} \operatorname{\mathsf{L}}^{\mathsf{N}}(\mathrm{CH}_2)_q \xrightarrow{\mathsf{L}} \operatorname{\mathsf{L}}^{\mathsf{N}}(\mathrm{CH}_2)_q \xrightarrow{\mathsf{L}} \operatorname{\mathsf{L}}^{\mathsf{N}}(\mathrm{CH}_2)_q \xrightarrow{\mathsf{L}}^{\mathsf{N}}(\mathrm{CH}_2)_q \xrightarrow{\mathsf{L}} \operatorname{\mathsf{L}}^{\mathsf{N}}(\mathrm{CH}_2)_q \xrightarrow{\mathsf{L}} \operatorname{\mathsf{L}}^{\mathsf{N}}(\mathrm{CH}_2)_q \xrightarrow{\mathsf{L}} \operatorname{\mathsf{L}}^{\mathsf{N}}(\mathrm{CH}_2)_q \xrightarrow{\mathsf{L}}^{\mathsf{N}}(\mathrm{L}^{\mathsf{L}})_q \xrightarrow{\mathsf{L}} \operatorname{\mathsf{L}}^{\mathsf{N}}(\mathrm{L}^{\mathsf{L}})_q \xrightarrow{\mathsf{L}}^{\mathsf{L}}^{\mathsf{N}}(\mathrm{L}^{\mathsf{L}})_q \xrightarrow{\mathsf{L}}^{\mathsf{L}} \times \operatorname{\mathsf{L}}^{$$

$$\operatorname{\mathsf{prop}}^{\mathsf{prop}} \overset{(a6)}{\underset{H}{\bigvee}} (\operatorname{CH}_2)_q \overset{(a7)}{\longrightarrow} U;$$

(a15)

-continued

wherein U is —H or — SO_3M ; and the remaining variables are as described above for (a1')-(a15').

In one embodiment, for compound of structural formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, Z^s is selected from formulas (a1')-(a8') and (a10')-(a15'); or is selected from $_{15}$ formulas (a1)-(a8) and (a10)-(a15).

A second object of the invention is to provide conjugates of cell binding agents with the novel benzodiazepine compounds or derivatives thereof of the present invention. These conjugates are useful as therapeutic agents, which are delivered specifically to target cells and are cytotoxic.

Specifically, a conjugate of the invention can comprise: a cytotoxic compound and a cell binding agent (CBA), wherein the cytotoxic compound is covalently linked to the CBA, and wherein the cytotoxic compound is represented by any one of the following formulas:

$$\begin{array}{c} O \\ R^{\ell} \\ N \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} X \\ N \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} X' \\ N \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} Y' \\ N \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} X' \\ N \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} Y' \\ N \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} Y$$

$$\begin{array}{c} O \\ R^e \\ N \end{array} \begin{array}{c} X' \\ N \end{array} \begin{array}{c} X' \\ N \end{array} \begin{array}{c} Y' \\$$

$$\begin{array}{c} & & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & \\ & & & \\ & &$$

$$\begin{array}{c} O \\ R^e \\ N \\ \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} X \\ Y \\ \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} X \\ Y \\ \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} X \\ \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} X \\ \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} Y \\ \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} Y \\ \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} X \\ \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} Y \\ \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} Y \\ \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} X \\ \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} Y \\ \end{array}$$

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

the double line == between N and C represents a single bond or a double bond, provided that when it is a double bond, X is absent and Y is —H, and when it is a single bond, X is selected from —H, or an amine protecting group;

Y is selected from —H, —OR, —OCOR', —SR, —NR'R", 55—SO₃M, —SO₂M or —OSO₃M, wherein M is —H or a cation:

R is —H, an optionally substituted linear, branched or cyclic alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl having from 1 to 10 carbon atoms or a PEG group — $(CH_2CH_2O)_n$ — R^c , wherein n is an 60 integer from 1 to 24, and R^c is a linear or branched alkyl having 1 to 4 carbon atoms;

R' and R" are the same or different, and are selected from —H, —OR, —NRR^{g'}, —COR, an optionally substituted linear, branched or cyclic alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl having from 65 1 to 10 carbon atoms, an optionally substituted aryl having from 6 to 18 carbon atoms, an optionally substituted 3- to

18-membered heterocyclic ring having 1 to 6 heteroatoms selected from O, S, N and P, a PEG group — $(CH_2CH_2O)_n$ — R^c , wherein n is an integer from 1 to 24, preferably n is 2, 4 or 8; and $R^{g'}$ is —H, an optionally substituted linear, branched or cyclic alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl having from 1 to 10 carbon atoms or a PEG group — $(CH_2CH_2O)_n$ — R^c ;

X' is selected from the group consisting of —H, —OH, an optionally substituted linear, branched or cyclic alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl having from 1 to 10 carbon atoms, phenyl, and an amine-protecting group;

Y' is selected from the group consisting of —H, an oxo group, an optionally substituted linear, branched or cyclic alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl having from 1 to 10 carbon atoms;

 R^{x} is a linear or branched alkylene having 1 to 6 carbon atoms, optionally substituted with a charged substituent or an ionizable group Q;

 \mathbb{R}^e is —H or a linear or branched alkyl having 1 to 6 carbon atoms;

G is selected from —CH— or —N—;

 Z^{s1} is selected from any one of the following formulas:

$$(b1)$$

$$(b2)$$

$$(b3)$$

$$(b4)$$

$$(b5)$$

$$(b5)$$

$$(b7)$$

$$(b7)$$

$$(b7)$$

$$(b7)$$

$$(b7)$$

$$(b7)$$

$$(b7)$$

$$(b8)$$

$$(b9)$$

$$(b11)$$

$$(b12)$$

$$(b13)$$

$$(b14)$$

wherein:

q is an integer from 1 to 5;

 \mathbb{R}^d is a linear or branched alkyl having 1 to 6 carbon atoms or is selected from phenyl, nitrophenyl, dinitrophenyl, carboxynitrophenyl, pyridyl and nitropyridyl;

n is an integer from 2 to 6; and

M is H+ or a cation.

In one embodiment, for conjugates of the present invention, the cell-binding agent is an anti-folate receptor antibody or an antibody fragment thereof. More specifically, the anti-folate receptor antibody is huMOV19 antibody.

In yet another embodiment, for conjugates of the present invention, the cell-binding agent is an anti-EGFR antibody or an antibody fragment thereof. In one embodiment, the anti-EGFR antibody is a non-antagonist antibody, including, for example, the antibodies described in WO2012058592, herein incorporated by reference. In another embodiment, the anti-EGFR antibody is a non-functional antibody, for example, humanized ML66. More specifically, the anti-EGFR antibody is huML66.

The present invention also includes a composition (e.g., a pharmaceutical composition) comprising novel benzodiazepine compounds, derivatives thereof, or conjugates thereof, (and/or solvates, hydrates and/or salts thereof) and a carrier (a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier). The present invention 25 additionally includes a composition (e.g., a pharmaceutical composition) comprising novel benzodiazepine compounds, derivatives thereof, or conjugates thereof (and/or solvates, hydrates and/or salts thereof), and a carrier (a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier), further comprising a second thera-30 peutic agent. The present compositions are useful for inhibiting abnormal cell growth or treating a proliferative disorder in a mammal (e.g., human). The present compositions are useful for treating conditions such as cancer, rheumatoid arthritis, multiple sclerosis, graft versus host disease 35 (GVHD), transplant rejection, lupus, myositis, infection, immune deficiency such as AIDS, and inflammatory diseases in a mammal (e.g., human).

The present invention includes a method of inhibiting abnormal cell growth or treating a proliferative disorder in a 40 mammal (e.g., human) comprising administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of novel benzo-diazepine compounds, derivatives thereof, or conjugates thereof, (and/or solvates and salts thereof) or a composition thereof, alone or in combination with a second therapeutic agent. The present invention includes a method of synthesizing and using novel benzodiazepine compounds, derivatives thereof, and conjugates thereof for in vitro, in situ, and in vivo diagnosis or treatment of mammalian cells, organisms, or associated pathological conditions.

The compounds of this invention, derivatives thereof, or conjugates thereof, and compositions comprising them, are useful for treating or lessening the severity of disorders, such as, characterized by abnormal growth of cells (e.g., cancer). Other applications for compounds and conjugates of this 55 invention include, but are not limited to, treating conditions such as cancer, rheumatoid arthritis, multiple sclerosis, graft versus host disease (GVHD), transplant rejection, lupus, myositis, infection, immune deficiency such as AIDS and inflammatory diseases in a mammal (e.g., human).

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES

FIG. 1 shows MS spectrometry data for huMov19-sulfo-SPDB-1d conjugate.

FIG. 2 shows in vivo efficacy of huMov19-sulfo-SPDB-1d conjugate in NCI-H2110 tumor bearing SCID mice.

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FIG. 3 shows MS spectrometry data for huML66-sulfo-SPDB-1d conjugate.

FIG. 4 shows in vitro cytotoxicity of huML66-sulfo-SPDB-1d conjugate against various cancer cell lines.

FIGS. 5-7 show in vitro cytotoxicity of huMOV19-sulfo-SPDB-1d conjugate against various cancer cell lines.

FIG. 8 shows that huMOV19-sulfo-SPDB-1d conjugate exhibits strong cytotoxic effect on the neighboring antigennegative cells.

FIGS. **9**A and **9**B show binding affinity of huMOV19-sulfo-SPDB-1d conjugate as compared to unconjugated antibody huMOV19 on T47D cells.

FIG. 10 shows in vivo efficacy of huMOV19-sulfo-SPDB-1d conjugate in NCI-H2110 tumor bearing SCID mice at 1, 3 and 5 μ g/kg doses.

FIG. 11 shows in vivo efficacy of huML66-sulfo-SPDB-1d conjugate in NCI-H1703 tumor bearing SCID mice at 5, 20 and 50 μ g/kg doses.

FIG. **12** shows pharmacokinetics of huMOV19-sulfo-²⁰ SPDB-1d conjugate in CD-1 Mice.

FIG. 13 shows the scheme for incubation, purification, and isolation of catabolites from huMOV19-sulfo-SPDB-1d conjugate formed in KB cervical cancer cells in vitro. The six catabolites identified by LC-MS are shown along with the calculated mass.

FIGS. **14**A, **14**B, **14**C and **14**D shows in vitro cytotoxicity of huMOV19-sulfo-SPDB-1d conjugate against various cancer cell lines.

FIG. **15** shows in vivo efficacy of huMov19-sulfo-SPDB-1d in SCID mice bearing NCI-H2110 NSCLC xenografts.

FIG. **16** shows in vivo efficacy of huMov19-sulfo-SPDB-1d in SCID mice bearing Hec-1b endometrial xenografts.

FIG. 17 shows in vivo efficacy of huMov19-sulfo-SPDB-1d in SCID mice bearing Ishikawa endometrial xenografts.

FIG. **18** shows binding affinity of huCD123-6Gv4.7S3-sSPDB-1d conjugate as compared to the unconjugated antibody on HNT-34 cells.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Reference will now be made in detail to certain embodiments of the invention, examples of which are illustrated in the accompanying structures and formulas. While the invention will be described in conjunction with the enumerated embodiments, it will be understood that they are not intended to limit the invention to those embodiments. On the contrary, the invention is intended to cover all alternatives, modifications, and equivalents that can be included within the scope of the present invention as defined by the claims. One skilled in the art will recognize many methods and materials similar or equivalent to those described herein, which could be used in the practice of the present invention.

It should be understood that any of the embodiments described herein, including those described under different aspects of the invention (e.g., compounds, compound-linker molecules, conjugates, compositions, methods of making and using) and different parts of the specification (including embodiments described only in the Examples) can be combined with one or more other embodiments of the invention, unless explicitly disclaimed or improper. Combination of embodiments are not limited to those specific combinations claimed via the multiple dependent claims.

DEFINITIONS

As used herein, the term "cell-binding agent" or "CBA" refers to a compound that can bind a cell (e.g., on a cell-

surface ligand) or bind a ligand associated with or proximate to the cell, preferably in a specific manner. In certain embodiments, binding to the cell or a ligand on or near the cell is specific. The CBA may include peptides and non-peptides.

"Linear or branched alkyl" as used herein refers to a satu- 5 rated linear or branched-chain monovalent hydrocarbon radical of one to twenty carbon atoms. Examples of alkyl include, but are not limited to, methyl, ethyl, 1-propyl, 2-propyl, 1-butyl, 2-methyl-1-propyl, —CH₂CH(CH₃)₂), 2-butyl, 2-methyl-2-propyl, 1-pentyl, 2-pentyl 3-pentyl, 2-methyl-2-butyl, 10 3-methyl-2-butyl, 3-methyl-1-butyl, 2-methyl-1-butyl, 1-hexyl), 2-hexyl, 3-hexyl, 2-methyl-2-pentyl, 3-methyl-2pentyl, 4-methyl-2-pentyl, 3-methyl-3-pentyl, 2-methyl-3pentyl, 2,3-dimethyl-2-butyl, 3,3-dimethyl-2-butyl, 1-heptyl, 1-octyl, and the like. Preferably, the alkyl has one to ten 15 carbon atoms. More preferably, the alkyl has one to four carbon atoms.

"Linear or branched alkenyl" refers to linear or branchedchain monovalent hydrocarbon radical of two to twenty carbon atoms with at least one site of unsaturation, i.e., a carbon-20 carbon, double bond, wherein the alkenyl radical includes radicals having "cis" and "trans" orientations, or alternatively, "E" and "Z" orientations. Examples include, but are not limited to, ethylenyl or vinyl (—CH—CH₂), allyl (—CH₂CH—CH₂), and the like. Preferably, the alkenyl has 25 two to ten carbon atoms. More preferably, the alkyl has two to four carbon atoms.

"Linear or branched alkynyl" refers to a linear or branched monovalent hydrocarbon radical of two to twenty carbon atoms with at least one site of unsaturation, i.e., a carbon- 30 carbon, triple bond. Examples include, but are not limited to, ethynyl, propynyl, 1-butynyl, 2-butynyl, 1-pentynyl, 2-pentynyl, 3-pentynyl, hexynyl, and the like. Preferably, the alkynyl has two to ten carbon atoms. More preferably, the alkynyl has two to four carbon atoms.

The term "carbocycle," "carbocyclyl" and "carbocyclic ring" refer to a monovalent non-aromatic, saturated or partially unsaturated ring having 3 to 12 carbon atoms as a monocyclic ring or 7 to 12 carbon atoms as a bicyclic ring. for example, as a bicyclo[4,5], [5,5], [5,6], or [6,6] system, and bicyclic carbocycles having 9 or 10 ring atoms can be arranged as a bicyclo[5,6] or [6,6] system, or as bridged systems such as bicyclo[2.2.1]heptane, bicyclo[2.2.2]octane and bicyclo[3.2.2]nonane Examples of monocyclic car- 45 bocycles include, but are not limited to, cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, 1-cyclopent-1-enyl, 1-cyclopent-2-enyl, 1-cyclopent-3-enyl, cyclohexyl, 1-cyclohex-1-enyl, 1-cyclohex-2-enyl, 1-cyclohex-3-enyl, cyclohexadienyl, cycloheptyl, cyclooctyl, cyclononyl, cyclodecyl, cycloundecyl, 50 cyclododecyl, and the like.

The terms "cyclic alkyl" and "cycloalkyl" can be used interchangeably. They refer to a monovalent saturated carbocyclic ring radical. Preferably, the cyclic alkyl is 3 to 7 membered monocyclic ring radical. More preferably, the 55 cyclic alkyl is cyclohexyl.

The term "cyclic alkenyl" refers to a carbocyclic ring radical having at least one double bond in the ring structure.

The term "cyclic alkynyl" refers to a carbocyclic ring radical having at least one triple bond in the ring structure.

"Aryl" means a monovalent aromatic hydrocarbon radical of 6-18 carbon atoms derived by the removal of one hydrogen atom from a single carbon atom of a parent aromatic ring system. Some aryl groups are represented in the exemplary structures as "Ar." Aryl includes bicyclic radicals comprising 65 an aromatic ring fused to a saturated, partially unsaturated ring, or aromatic carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring. Typical

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aryl groups include, but are not limited to, radicals derived from benzene (phenyl), substituted benzenes, naphthalene, anthracene, indenyl, indanyl, 1,2-dihydronapthalene, 1,2,3, 4-tetrahydronapthyl, and the like. Preferably, aryl is phenyl group.

The terms "heterocycle," "heterocyclyl," and "heterocyclic ring" are used interchangeably herein and refer to a saturated or a partially unsaturated (i.e., having one or more double and/or triple bonds within the ring) carbocyclic radical of 3 to 18 ring atoms in which at least one ring atom is a heteroatom selected from nitrogen, oxygen, phosphorus, and sulfur, the remaining ring atoms being C, where one or more ring atoms is optionally substituted independently with one or more substituents described below. A heterocycle can be a monocycle having 3 to 7 ring members (2 to 6 carbon atoms and 1 to 4 heteroatoms selected from N, O, P, and S) or a bicycle having 7 to 10 ring members (4 to 9 carbon atoms and 1 to 6 heteroatoms selected from N, O, P, and S), for example: a bicyclo[4, 5], [5,5], [5,6], or [6,6] system. Heterocycles are described in Paquette, Leo A.: "Principles of Modern Heterocyclic Chemistry" (W. A. Benjamin, New York, 1968), particularly Chapters 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, and 9; "The Chemistry of Heterocyclic Compounds, A series of Monographs" (John Wiley & Sons, New York, 1950 to present), in particular Volumes 13, 14, 16, 19, and 28; and J. Am. Chem. Soc. (1960) 82:5566. "Heterocyclyl" also includes radicals where heterocycle radicals are fused with a saturated, partially unsaturated ring, or aromatic carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring. Examples of heterocyclic rings include, but are not limited to, pyrrolidinyl, tetrahydrofuranyl, dihydrofuranyl, tetrahydrothienyl, tetrahydropyranyl, dihydropyranyl, tetrahydrothiopyranyl, piperidino, morthiomorpholino, thioxanyl, pholino, piperazinyl, homopiperazinyl, azetidinyl, oxetanyl, thietanyl, homopiperidinyl, oxepanyl, thiepanyl, oxazepinyl, diazepinyl, thiazepinyl, 2-pyrrolinyl, 3-pyrrolinyl, indolinyl, 2H-pyranyl, 4H-pyranyl, dioxanyl, 1,3-dioxolanyl, pyrazolinyl, dithianyl, dithiolanyl, dihydropyranyl, dihydrothienyl, dihydrofuranyl, pyrazolidinylimidazolinyl, imidazolidinyl, 3-azabicyco [3.1.0]hexanyl, 3-azabicyclo[4.1.0]heptanyl, and azabicyclo Bicyclic carbocycles having 7 to 12 atoms can be arranged, 40 [2.2.2]hexanyl. Spiro moieties are also included within the scope of this definition. Examples of a heterocyclic group wherein ring atoms are substituted with oxo (=O) moieties are pyrimidinonyl and 1,1-dioxo-thiomorpholinyl.

The term "heteroaryl" refers to a monovalent aromatic radical of 5- or 6-membered rings, and includes fused ring systems (at least one of which is aromatic) of 5-18 atoms, containing one or more heteroatoms independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen, and sulfur. Examples of heteroaryl groups are pyridinyl (including, for example, 2-hydroxypyridinyl), imidazolyl, imidazopyridinyl, pyrimidinyl (including, for example, 4-hydroxypyrimidinyl), pyrazolyl, triazolyl, pyrazinyl, tetrazolyl, furyl, thienyl, isoxazolyl, thiazolyl, oxazolyl, isothiazolyl, pyrrolyl, quinolinyl, isoquinolinyl, indolyl, benzimidazolyl, benzofuranyl, cinnolinyl, indazolyl, indolizinyl, phthalazinyl, pyridazinyl, triazinyl, isoindolyl, pteridinyl, purinyl, oxadiazolyl, triazolyl, thiadiazolyl, furazanyl, benzofurazanyl, benzothiophenyl, benzothiazolyl, benzoxazolyl, quinazolinyl, quinoxalinyl, naphthyridinyl, and furopyridinyl.

The heterocycle or heteroaryl groups can be carbon (carbon-linked) or nitrogen (nitrogen-linked) attached where such is possible. By way of example and not limitation, carbon bonded heterocycles or heteroaryls are bonded at position 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6 of a pyridine, position 3, 4, 5, or 6 of a pyridazine, position 2, 4, 5, or 6 of a pyrimidine, position 2, 3, 5, or 6 of a pyrazine, position 2, 3, 4, or 5 of a furan, tetrahydrofuran, thiofuran, thiophene, pyrrole or tetrahydropyrrole,

position 2, 4, or 5 of an oxazole, imidazole or thiazole, position 3, 4, or 5 of an isoxazole, pyrazole, or isothiazole, position 2 or 3 of an aziridine, position 2, 3, or 4 of an azetidine, position 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, or 8 of a quinoline or position 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, or 8 of an isoquinoline.

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By way of example and not limitation, nitrogen bonded heterocycles or heteroaryls are bonded at position 1 of an aziridine, azetidine, pyrrole, pyrrolidine, 2-pyrroline, 3-pyrroline, imidazole, imidazolidine, 2-imidazoline, 3-imidazoline, pyrazole, pyrazoline, 2-pyrazoline, 3-pyrazoline, piperidine, piperazine, indole, indoline, 1H-indazole, position 2 of a isoindole, or isoindoline, position 4 of a morpholine, and position 9 of a carbazole, or O-carboline.

The heteroatoms present in heteroaryl or heterocycicyl include the oxidized forms such as NO, SO, and SO₂.

The term "halo" or "halogen" refers to F, Cl, Br or I

The alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cyclic alkyl, cyclic alkenyl, cyclic alkynyl, carbocyclyl, aryl, heterocyclyl and heteroaryl described above can be optionally substituted with one more (e.g., 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 or more) substituents.

If a substituent is described as being "substituted," a nonhydrogen substituent is in the place of a hydrogen substituent on a carbon, oxygen, sulfur or nitrogen of the substituent. Thus, for example, a substituted alkyl substituent is an alkyl substituent wherein at least one non-hydrogen substituent is 25 in the place of a hydrogen substituent on the alkyl substituent. To illustrate, monofluoroalkyl is alkyl substituted with a fluoro substituent, and difluoroalkyl is alkyl substituted with two fluoro substituents. It should be recognized that if there is more than one substitution on a substituent, each non-hydrogen substituent can be identical or different (unless otherwise stated).

If a substituent is described as being "optionally substituted," the substituted carbon of a substitutent is described as being 35 erocycl, $-SR^{101}$, $-SO_2R^{101}$, aryl, heteroaryl, hetsubstituted. If a carbon of a substitutent is described as being 35 erocycl, $-SR^{101}$, $-SO_2R^{101}$, and $-SO_3M$. optionally substituted with one or more of a list of substituents, one or more of the hydrogens on the carbon (to the extent there are any) can separately and/or together be replaced with an independently selected optional substituent. If a nitrogen of a substituent is described as being optionally substituted 40 with one or more of a list of substituents, one or more of the hydrogens on the nitrogen (to the extent there are any) can each be replaced with an independently selected optional substituent. One exemplary substituent can be depicted as -NR'R", wherein R' and R" together with the nitrogen atom 45 to which they are attached, can form a heterocyclic ring. The heterocyclic ring formed from R' and R" together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached can be partially or fully saturated. In one embodiment, the heterocyclic ring consists of 3 to 7 atoms. In another embodiment, the hetero- 50 cyclic ring is selected from the group consisting of pyrrolyl, imidazolyl, pyrazolyl, triazolyl, tetrazolyl, isoxazolyl, pyridyl and thiazolyl.

This specification uses the terms "substituent," "radical," and "group" interchangeably.

If a group of substituents are collectively described as being optionally substituted by one or more of a list of substituents, the group can include: (1) unsubstitutable substituents, (2) substitutable substituents that are not substituted by the optional substituents, and/or (3) substitutable substituents 60 that are substituted by one or more of the optional substitu-

If a substituent is described as being optionally substituted with up to a particular number of non-hydrogen substituents, that substituent can be either (1) not substituted; or (2) sub- 65 stituted by up to that particular number of non-hydrogen substituents or by up to the maximum number of substitutable

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positions on the substituent, whichever is less. Thus, for example, if a substituent is described as a heteroaryl optionally substituted with up to 3 non-hydrogen substituents, then any heteroaryl with less than 3 substitutable positions would be optionally substituted by up to only as many non-hydrogen substituents as the heteroaryl has substitutable positions. Such substituents, in non-limiting examples, can be selected from a linear, branched or cyclic alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl having from 1 to 10 carbon atoms, aryl, heteroaryl, heterocycyclyl, halogen, guanidinium [—NH(C—NH)NH₂], —OR 100 , NR 101 R 102 , —NO $_2$, —NR 101 COR 102 , —SR 100 , a sulfoxide represented by —SOR¹⁰¹, a sulfone represented by -SO₂R¹⁰¹, a sulfonate —SO₃M, a sulfate —OSO₃M, a sulfonamide represented by $-SO_2NR^{101}R^{102}$, cyano, an azido, $-COR^{101}$, $-OCOR^{101}$, $-OCOR^{101}$, $-OCONR^{101}R^{102}$ and a polyethylene glycol unit (—OCH₂CH₂)_nR¹⁰¹ wherein M is H or a cation (such as Na⁺ or K⁺); R¹⁰¹, R¹⁰² and R¹⁰³ are each independently selected from H, linear, branched or cyclic alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl having from 1 to 10 carbon atoms, a 20 polyethylene glycol unit $(-OCH_2CH_2)_n$ $-R^{104}$, wherein n is an integer from 1 to 24, an aryl having from 6 to 10 carbon atoms, a heterocyclic ring having from 3 to 10 carbon atoms and a heteroary 1 having 5 to 10 carbon atoms; and $\rm R^{104}$ is $\rm H\,or$ a linear or branched alkyl having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, wherein the alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, heteroaryl and heterocyclcyl in the groups represented by R^{100} , R^{101} , R^{102} , R^{103} and R^{104} are optionally substituted with one or more (e.g., 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 or more) substituents independently selected from halogen, -OH, -CN, -NO₂ and unsubstituted linear or branched alkyl having 1 to 4 carbon atoms. Preferably, the substituents for the optionally substituted alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cyclic alkyl, cyclic alkenyl, cyclic alkynyl, carbocyclyl, aryl, heterocyclyl and heteroaryl described above include halogen,

The term "compound" or "cytotoxic compound," "cytotoxic dimer" and "cytotoxic dimer compound" are used interchangeably. They are intended to include compounds for which a structure or formula or any derivative thereof has been disclosed in the present invention or a structure or formula or any derivative thereof that has been incorporated by reference. The term also includes, stereoisomers, geometric isomers, tautomers, solvates, metabolites, salts (e.g., pharmaceutically acceptable salts) and prodrugs, and prodrug salts of a compound of all the formulae disclosed in the present invention. The term also includes any solvates, hydrates, and polymorphs of any of the foregoing. The specific recitation of "stereoisomers," "geometric isomers," "tautomers," "solvates," "metabolites," "salt" "prodrug," "prodrug salt," "conjugates," "conjugates salt," "solvate," "hydrate," or "polymorph" in certain aspects of the invention described in this application shall not be interpreted as an intended omission of these forms in other aspects of the invention where the term "compound" is used without recitation of these other forms.

The term "conjugate" as used herein refers to a compound described herein or a derivative thereof that is linked to a cell binding agent.

The term "linkable to a cell binding agent" as used herein refers to the compounds described herein or derivates thereof comprising at least one linking group or a precursor thereof suitable to bond these compounds or derivatives thereof to a cell binding agent.

The term "precursor" of a given group refers to any group that can lead to that group by any deprotection, a chemical modification, or a coupling reaction.

The term "linked to a cell binding agent" refers to a conjugate molecule comprising at least one of the compounds

described herein (e.g., compounds of formula (I)-(IV) and (VIII)-(XI) and drug-linker compounds describe herein), or derivative thereof bound to a cell binding agent via a suitable linking group or a precursor thereof.

The term "chiral" refers to molecules that have the property of non-superimposability of the mirror image partner, while the term "achiral" refers to molecules that are superimposable on their minor image partner.

The term "stereoisomer" refers to compounds that have identical chemical constitution and connectivity, but different 10 orientations of their atoms in space that cannot be interconverted by rotation about single bonds.

"Diastereomer" refers to a stereoisomer with two or more centers of chirality and whose molecules are not mirror images of one another. Diastereomers have different physical 15 properties, e.g. melting points, boiling points, spectral properties, and reactivities. Mixtures of diastereomers can separate under high resolution analytical procedures such as crystallization, electrophoresis and chromatography.

"Enantiomers" refer to two stereoisomers of a compound 20 that are non-superimposable mirror images of one another.

Stereochemical definitions and conventions used herein generally follow S. P. Parker, Ed., McGraw-Hill Dictionary of Chemical Terms (1984) McGraw-Hill Book Company, New York; and Eliel, E. and Wilen, S., "Stereochemistry of 25 Organic Compounds," John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York, 1994. The compounds of the invention can contain asymmetric or chiral centers, and therefore exist in different stereoisomeric forms. It is intended that all stereoisomeric forms of the compounds of the invention, including but not limited to, 30 diastereomers, enantiomers and atropisomers, as well as mixtures thereof such as racemic mixtures, form part of the present invention. Many organic compounds exist in optically active forms, i.e., they have the ability to rotate the plane of plane-polarized light. In describing an optically active com- 35 pound, the prefixes D and L, or R and S, are used to denote the absolute configuration of the molecule about its chiral center(s). The prefixes d and I or (+) and (-) are employed to designate the sign of rotation of plane-polarized light by the compound, with (-) or 1 meaning that the compound is 40 levorotatory. A compound prefixed with (+) or d is dextrorotatory. For a given chemical structure, these stereoisomers are identical except that they are mirror images of one another. A specific stereoisomer can also be referred to as an enantiomer, and a mixture of such isomers is often called an enantiomeric 45 mixture. A 50:50 mixture of enantiomers is referred to as a racemic mixture or a racemate, which can occur where there has been no stereoselection or stereospecificity in a chemical reaction or process. The terms "racemic mixture" and "racemate" refer to an equimolar mixture of two enantiomeric 50 species, devoid of optical activity.

The term "tautomer" or "tautomeric form" refers to structural isomers of different energies that are interconvertible via a low energy barrier. For example, proton tautomers (also known as prototropic tautomers) include interconversions via 55 migration of a proton, such as keto-enol and imine-enamine isomerizations. Valence tautomers include interconversions by reorganization of some of the bonding electrons.

The term "prodrug" as used in this application refers to a precursor or derivative form of a compound of the invention 60 that is capable of being enzymatically or hydrolytically activated or converted into the more active parent form. See, e.g., Wilman, "Prodrugs in Cancer Chemotherapy" Biochemical Society Transactions, 14, pp. 375-382, 615th Meeting Belfast (1986) and Stella et al., "Prodrugs: A Chemical Approach to 65 Targeted Drug Delivery," Directed Drug Delivery, Borchardt et al., (ed.), pp. 247-267, Humana Press (1985). The prodrugs

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of this invention include, but are not limited to, ester-containing prodrugs, phosphate-containing prodrugs, thiophosphate-containing prodrugs, sulfate-containing prodrugs, peptide-containing prodrugs, D-amino acid-modified prodrugs, glycosylated prodrugs, β -lactam-containing prodrugs, optionally substituted phenoxyacetamide-containing prodrugs, optionally substituted phenylacetamide-containing prodrugs, 5-fluorocytosine and other 5-fluorouridine prodrugs that can be converted into the more active cytotoxic free drug. Examples of cytotoxic drugs that can be derivatized into a prodrug form for use in this invention include, but are not limited to, compounds of the invention and chemotherapeutic agents such as described above.

The term "prodrug" is also meant to include a derivative of a compound that can hydrolyze, oxidize, or otherwise react under biological conditions (in vitro or in vivo) to provide a compound of this invention. Prodrugs can only become active upon such reaction under biological conditions, or they can have activity in their unreacted forms. Examples of prodrugs contemplated in this invention include, but are not limited to. analogs or derivatives of compounds of any one of the formulae disclosed herein that comprise biohydrolyzable moieties such as biohydrolyzable amides, biohydrolyzable esters, biohydrolyzable carbamates, biohydrolyzable carbonates, biohydrolyzable ureides, and biohydrolyzable phosphate analogues. Other examples of prodrugs include derivatives of compounds of any one of the formulae disclosed herein that comprise —NO, —NO₂, —ONO, or —ONO₂ moieties. Prodrugs can typically be prepared using well-known methods, such as those described by Burger's Medicinal Chemistry and Drug Discovery (1995) 172-178, 949-982 (Manfred E. Wolff ed., 5th ed); see also Goodman and Gilman's, The Pharmacological basis of Therapeutics, 8th ed., McGraw-Hill, Int. Ed. 1992, "Biotransformation of Drugs."

One preferred form of prodrug of the invention includes compounds (with or without any linker groups) and conjugates of the invention comprising an adduct formed between an imine bond of the compounds/conjugates and an imine reactive reagent. Another preferred form of prodrug of the invention includes compounds such as those of formula (I)-(IV), wherein when the double line == between N and C represents a single bond, X is H or an amine protecting group, and the compound becomes a prodrug. A prodrug of the invention can contain one or both forms of prodrugs described herein (e.g., containing an adduct formed between an imine bond of the compounds/conjugates and an imine reactive reagent, and/or containing a Y leaving group when X is —H).

The term "imine reactive reagent" refers to a reagent that is capable of reacting with an imine group. Examples of imine reactive reagent includes, but is not limited to, sulfites (H₂SO₃, H₂SO₂ or a salt of HSO₃⁻, SO₃²⁻ or HSO₂⁻ formed with a cation), metabisulfite $(H_2S_2O_5)$ or a salt of $S_2O_5^{2-}$ formed with a cation), mono, di, tri, and tetra-thiophosphates (PO₃SH₃, PO₂S₂H₃, POS₃H₃, PS₄H₃ or a salt of PO₃S³-, PO₂S₂³⁻, POS₃³⁻ or PS₄³⁻ formed with a cation), thio phosphate esters ((RⁱO)₂PS(ORⁱ), RⁱSH, RⁱSOH, RⁱSO₂H, RⁱSO₃H), various amines (hydroxyl amine (e.g., NH₂OH), hydrazine (e.g., NH_2NH_2), NH_2O-R^i , $NH-R^i$, NH_2-R^i), NH_2 —CO— $NH_{29}NH_2$ —C(=S)— $NH_{2'}$ thiosulfate $(H_2S_2O_3 \text{ or a salt of } S_2O_3^{-2} \text{ formed with a cation), dithionite } (H_2S_2O_4 \text{ or a salt of } S_2O_4^{-2} \text{ formed with a cation), phospholical of the cation of the c$ rodithioate $(P(=S)(OR^k)(SH)(OH))$ or a salt thereof formed with a cation), hydroxamic acid ($R^kC(=O)NHOH$ or a salt formed with a cation), hydrazide (R^kCONHNH₂), formaldehyde sulfoxylate (HOCH₂SO₂H or a salt of HOCH₂SO₂ formed with a cation, such as HOCH₂SO₂-Na⁺), glycated

nucleotide (such as GDP-mannose), fludarabine or a mixture thereof, wherein R^i and $R^{i'}$ are each independently a linear or branched alkyl having 1 to 10 carbon atoms and are substituted with at least one substituent selected from $-N(R^{j})_{2}$, $-CO_2H$, $-SO_3H$, and $-PO_3H$; R^i and $R^{i'}$ can be further 5 optionally substituted with a substituent for an alkyl described herein; R is a linear or branched alkyl having 1 to 6 carbon atoms; and R^k is a linear, branched or cyclic alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl having 1 to 10 carbon atoms, aryl, heterocyclyl or heteroaryl (preferably, R^k is a linear or branched alkyl having 1 to 4 carbon atoms; more preferably, R^k is methyl, ethyl or propyl). Preferably, the cation is a monovalent cation, such as Na⁺ or K⁺. Preferably, the imine reactive reagent is selected from sulfites, hydroxyl amine, urea and hydrazine. More preferably, the imine reactive reagent is 15 NaHSO3 or KHSO3.

As used herein and unless otherwise indicated, the terms "biohydrolyzable amide," "biohydrolyzable ester," "biohydrolyzable carbamate," "biohydrolyzable carbonate," "biohydrolyzable ureide" and "biohydrolyzable phosphate ana- 20 logue" mean an amide, ester, carbamate, carbonate, ureide, or phosphate analogue, respectively, that either: 1) does not destroy the biological activity of the compound and confers upon that compound advantageous properties in vivo, such as uptake, duration of action, or onset of action; or 2) is itself 25 biologically inactive but is converted in vivo to a biologically active compound. Examples of biohydrolyzable amides include, but are not limited to, lower alkyl amides, α -amino acid amides, alkoxyacyl amides, and alkylaminoalkylcarbonyl amides. Examples of biohydrolyzable esters include, but 30 are not limited to, lower alkyl esters, alkoxyacyloxy esters, alkyl acylamino alkyl esters, and choline esters. Examples of biohydrolyzable carbamates include, but are not limited to, lower alkylamines, substituted ethylenediamines, amino acids, hydroxyalkylamines, heterocyclic and heteroaromatic 35 amines, and polyether amines. Particularly favored prodrugs and prodrug salts are those that increase the bioavailability of the compounds of this invention when such compounds are administered to a mammal

The phrase "pharmaceutically acceptable salt" as used 40 herein, refers to pharmaceutically acceptable organic or inorganic salts of a compound of the invention. Exemplary salts include, but are not limited, to sulfate, citrate, acetate, oxalate, chloride, bromide, iodide, nitrate, bisulfate, phosphate, acid phosphate, isonicotinate, lactate, salicylate, acid citrate, tar- 45 trate, oleate, tannate, pantothenate, bitartrate, ascorbate, succinate, maleate, gentisinate, fumarate, gluconate, glucursaccharate, formate, benzoate, glutamate, methanesulfonate "mesylate," ethanesulfonate, benzenesulfonate, p-toluenesulfonate, pamoate (i.e., 1,1'-methylene- 50 bis-(2-hydroxy-3-naphthoate)) salts, alkali metal (e.g., sodium and potassium) salts, alkaline earth metal (e.g., magnesium) salts, and ammonium salts. A pharmaceutically acceptable salt can involve the inclusion of another molecule such as an acetate ion, a succinate ion or other counter ion. 55 ful in the treatment of cancer. The counter ion can be any organic or inorganic moiety that stabilizes the charge on the parent compound. Furthermore, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt can have more than one charged atom in its structure. Instances where multiple charged atoms are part of the pharmaceutically acceptable 60 salt can have multiple counter ions. Hence, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt can have one or more charged atoms and/or one or more counter ion.

If the compound of the invention is a base, the desired pharmaceutically acceptable salt can be prepared by any suitable method available in the art, for example, treatment of the free base with an inorganic acid, such as hydrochloric acid, 26

hydrobromic acid, sulfuric acid, nitric acid, methanesulfonic acid, phosphoric acid and the like, or with an organic acid, such as acetic acid, maleic acid, succinic acid, mandelic acid, fumaric acid, malonic acid, pyruvic acid, oxalic acid, glycolic acid, salicylic acid, a pyranosidyl acid, such as glucuronic acid or galacturonic acid, an alpha hydroxy acid, such as citric acid or tartaric acid, an amino acid, such as aspartic acid or glutamic acid, an aromatic acid, such as benzoic acid or cinnamic acid, a sulfonic acid, such as p-toluenesulfonic acid or ethanesulfonic acid, or the like.

If the compound of the invention is an acid, the desired pharmaceutically acceptable salt can be prepared by any suitable method, for example, treatment of the free acid with an inorganic or organic base, such as an amine (primary, secondary or tertiary), an alkali metal hydroxide or alkaline earth metal hydroxide, or the like. Illustrative examples of suitable salts include, but are not limited to, organic salts derived from amino acids, such as glycine and arginine, ammonia, primary, secondary, and tertiary amines, and cyclic amines, such as piperidine, morpholine and piperazine, and inorganic salts derived from sodium, calcium, potassium, magnesium, manganese, iron, copper, zinc, aluminum and lithium.

As used herein, the term "solvate" means a compound that further includes a stoichiometric or non-stoichiometric amount of solvent such as water, isopropanol, acetone, ethanol, methanol, DMSO, ethyl acetate, acetic acid, and ethanolamine dichloromethane, 2-propanol, or the like, bound by non-covalent intermolecular forces. Solvates or hydrates of the compounds are readily prepared by addition of at least one molar equivalent of a hydroxylic solvent such as methanol, ethanol, 1-propanol, 2-propanol or water to the compound to result in solvation or hydration of the imine moiety.

The terms "abnormal cell growth" and "proliferative disorder" are used interchangeably in this application. "Abnormal cell growth," as used herein, unless otherwise indicated, refers to cell growth that is independent of normal regulatory mechanisms (e.g., loss of contact inhibition). This includes, for example, the abnormal growth of: (1) tumor cells (tumors) that proliferate by expressing a mutated tyrosine kinase or overexpression of a receptor tyrosine kinase; (2) benign and malignant cells of other proliferative diseases in which aberrant tyrosine kinase activation occurs; (3) any tumors that proliferate by receptor tyrosine kinases; (4) any tumors that proliferate by aberrant serine/threonine kinase activation; and (5) benign and malignant cells of other proliferative diseases in which aberrant serine/threonine kinase activation occurs.

The terms "cancer" and "cancerous" refer to or describe the physiological condition in mammals that is typically characterized by unregulated cell growth. A "tumor" comprises one or more cancerous cells, and/or benign or pre-cancerous cells.

A "therapeutic agent" encompasses both a biological agent such as an antibody, a peptide, a protein, an enzyme or a chemotherapeutic agent.

A "chemotherapeutic agent" is a chemical compound useful in the treatment of cancer.

A "metabolite" is a product produced through metabolism in the body of a specified compound, a derivative thereof, or a conjugate thereof, or salt thereof. Metabolites of a compound, a derivative thereof, or a conjugate thereof, can be identified using routine techniques known in the art and their activities determined using tests such as those described herein. Such products can result for example from the oxidation, hydroxylation, reduction, hydrolysis, amidation, deamidation, esterification, deesterification, enzymatic cleavage, and the like, of the administered compound. Accordingly, the invention includes metabolites of compounds, a derivative thereof, or a conjugate thereof, of the invention, including

compounds, a derivative thereof, or a conjugate thereof, produced by a process comprising contacting a compound, a derivative thereof, or a conjugate thereof, of this invention with a mammal for a period of time sufficient to yield a metabolic product thereof.

The phrase "pharmaceutically acceptable" indicates that the substance or composition must be compatible chemically and/or toxicologically, with the other ingredients comprising a formulation, and/or the mammal being treated therewith.

The term "protecting group" or "protecting moiety" refers 10 to a substituent that is commonly employed to block or protect a particular functionality while reacting other functional groups on the compound, a derivative thereof, or a conjugate thereof. For example, an "amine-protecting group" or an "amino-protecting moiety" is a substituent attached to an 15 amino group that blocks or protects the amino functionality in the compound. Such groups are well known in the art (see for example P. Wuts and T. Greene, 2007, Protective Groups in Organic Synthesis, Chapter 7, J. Wiley & Sons, NJ) and exemplified by carbamates such as methyl and ethyl carbam- 20 ate, FMOC, substituted ethyl carbamates, carbamates cleaved by 1,6-β-elimination (also termed "self immolative"), ureas, amides, peptides, alkyl and aryl derivatives. Suitable aminoprotecting groups include acetyl, trifluoroacetyl, t-butoxycarbonyl (BOC), benzyloxycarbonyl (CBZ) and 9-fluorenylm- 25 ethylenoxycarbonyl (Fmoc). For a general description of protecting groups and their use, see P. G. M. Wuts & T. W. Greene, Protective Groups in Organic Synthesis, John Wiley & Sons, New York, 2007.

The term "leaving group" refers to an group of charged or uncharged moiety that departs during a substitution or displacement. Such leaving groups are well known in the art and include, but not limited to, halogens, esters, alkoxy, hydroxyl, tosylates, triflates, mesylates, nitriles, azide, carbamate, disulfides, thioesters, thioethers and diazonium compounds.

The term "bifunctional crosslinking agent," "bifunctional linker" or "crosslinking agents" refers to modifying agents that possess two reactive groups; one of which is capable of reacting with a cell binding agent while the other one reacts with the cytotoxic compound to link the two moieties 40 together. Such bifunctional crosslinkers are well known in the art (see, for example, Isalm and Dent in Bioconjugation chapter 5, p 218-363, Groves Dictionaries Inc. New York, 1999). For example, bifunctional crosslinking agents that enable linkage via a thioether bond include N-succinimidyl-4-(N- 45 maleimidomethyl)-cyclohexane-1-carboxylate (SMCC) to introduce maleimido groups, or with N-succinimidyl-4-(iodoacetyl)-aminobenzoate (SIAB) to introduce iodoacetyl groups. Other bifunctional crosslinking agents that introduce maleimido groups or haloacetyl groups on to a cell binding 50 agent are well known in the art (see US Patent Applications 2008/0050310, 20050169933, available from Pierce Biotechnology Inc. P.O. Box 117, Rockland, Ill. 61105, USA) and include, but not limited to, bis-maleimidopolyethyleneglycol (BMPEO), BM(PEO)₂, BM(PEO)₃, N-(β-maleimidopropy- 55 loxy)succinimide ester (BMPS), γ-maleimidobutyric acid N-succinimidyl ester (GMBS), ∈-maleimidocaproic acid N-hydroxysuccinimide ester (EMCS), 5-maleimidovaleric acid NHS, HBVS, N-succinimidyl-4-(N-maleimidomethyl)cyclohexane-1-carboxy-(6-amidocaproate), which is a "long 60 chain" analog of SMCC (LC-SMCC), m-maleimidobenzoyl-N-hydroxysuccinimide ester (MBS), 4-(4-N-maleimidophenyl)-butyric acid hydrazide or HCl salt (MPBH), N-succinimidyl 3-(bromoacetamido)propionate (SBAP). N-succinimidyl iodoacetate (SIA), κ-maleimidoundecanoic 65 acid N-succinimidyl ester (KMUA), N-succinimidyl 4-(pmaleimidophenyl)-butyrate (SMPB), succinimidyl-6-(β-ma28

leimidopropionamido)hexanoate (SMPH), succinimidyl-(4vinylsulfonyl)benzoate (SVSB), dithiobis-maleimidoethane (DTME), 1,4-bis-maleimidobutane (BMB), 1,4 bismaleimidyl-2,3-dihydroxybutane (BMDB), bis-maleimidohexane (BMH), bis-maleimidoethane (BMOE), sulfosuccinimidyl 4-(N-maleimido-methyl)cyclohexane-1-carboxylate (sulfosulfosuccinimidyl(4-iodo-acetyl)aminobenzoate (sulfo-SIAB), m-maleimidobenzoyl-N-hydroxysulfosuccinimide ester (sulfo-MBS), N-(γ-maleimidobutryloxy)sulfosuccinimde ester (sulfo-GMBS), N-(ϵ -maleimidocaproyloxy) sulfosuccimido ester (sulfo-EMCS), maleimidoundecanoyloxy)sulfosuccinimide ester (sulfo-KMUS), and sulfosuccinimidyl 4-(p-maleimidophenyl) butyrate (sulfo-SMPB).

Heterobifunctional crosslinking agents are bifunctional crosslinking agents having two different reactive groups. Heterobifunctional crosslinking agents containing both an amine-reactive N-hydroxysuccinimide group (NHS group) and a carbonyl-reactive hydrazine group can also be used to link the cytotoxic compounds described herein with a cellbinding agent (e.g., antibody). Examples of such commercially available heterobifunctional crosslinking agents include succinimidyl 6-hydrazinonicotinamide acetone hydrazone (SANH), succinimidyl 4-hydrazidoterephthalate hydrochloride (SHTH) and succinimidyl hydrazinium nicotinate hydrochloride (SHNH). Conjugates bearing an acidlabile linkage can also be prepared using a hydrazine-bearing benzodiazepine derivative of the present invention. Examples of bifunctional crosslinking agents that can be used include succinimidyl-p-formyl benzoate (SFB) and succinimidyl-pformylphenoxyacetate (SFPA).

Bifunctional crosslinking agents that enable the linkage of cell binding agent with cytotoxic compounds via disulfide bonds are known in the art and include N-succinimidyl-3-(2-35 pyridyldithio)propionate (SPDP), N-succinimidyl-4-(2-pyridyldithio)pentanoate (SPP), N-succinimidyl-4-(2-pyridyldithio)butanoate (SPDB), N-succinimidyl-4-(2pyridyldithio)2-sulfo butanoate (sulfo-SPDB) to introduce dithiopyridyl groups. Other bifunctional crosslinking agents that can be used to introduce disulfide groups are known in the art and are disclosed in U.S. Pat. Nos. 6,913,748, 6,716,821 and US Patent Publications 20090274713 and 20100129314, all of which are incorporated herein by reference. Alternatively, crosslinking agents such as 2-iminothiolane, homocysteine thiolactone or S-acetylsuccinic anhydride that introduce thiol groups can also be used.

A "linker," "linker moiety," or "linking group" as defined herein refers to a moiety that connects two groups, such as a cell binding agent and a cytotoxic compound, together. Typically, the linker is substantially inert under conditions for which the two groups it is connecting are linked. A bifunctional crosslinking agent can comprise two reactive groups, one at each ends of a linker moiety, such that one reactive group can be first reacted with the cytotoxic compound to provide a compound bearing the linker moiety and a second reactive group, which can then react with a cell binding agent. Alternatively, one end of the bifunctional crosslinking agent can be first reacted with the cell binding agent to provide a cell binding agent bearing a linker moiety and a second reactive group, which can then react with a cytotoxic compound. The linking moiety can contain a chemical bond that allows for the release of the cytotoxic moiety at a particular site. Suitable chemical bonds are well known in the art and include disulfide bonds, thioether bonds, acid labile bonds, photolabile bonds, peptidase labile bonds and esterase labile bonds (see for example U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,208,020; 5,475,092; 6,441,163; 6,716,821; 6,913,748; 7,276,497; 7,276,499; 7,368,565;

7,388,026 and 7,414,073). Preferred are disulfide bonds, thioether and peptidase labile bonds. Other linkers that can be used in the present invention include non-cleavable linkers, such as those described in are described in detail in U.S. publication number 20050169933, or charged linkers or 5 hydrophilic linkers and are described in US 2009/0274713, US 2010/01293140 and WO 2009/134976, each of which is expressly incorporated herein by reference, each of which is expressly incorporated herein by reference.

In one embodiment, the linking group with a reactive group 10 attached at one end, such as a reactive ester, is selected from the following:

- $-O(CR_{20}R_{21})_m(CR_{22}R_{23})_n(OCH_2CH_2)_p(CR_{40}R_{41})_{p''}Y''$ $(CR_{24}R_{25})_q(CO)_t\bar{X}'',$
- $-O(CR_{20}R_{21})_m(CR_{26} = CR_{27})_m(CR_{22}R_{23})_n(OCH_2CH_2)_p$ $(CR_{40}R_{41})_{p''}Y''(CR_{24}R_{25})_q(CO)_tX'',$
- $-O(CR_{20}R_{21})_m(alkynl)_n(CR_{22}R_{23})_n(OCH_2CH_2)_p$ $(CR_{40}R_{41})_{p''}Y''(CR_{24}R_{25})_{q}(CO)_{t}X'',$
- $-O(CR_{20}R_{21})_m$ (piperazino), $(CR_{22}R_{23})_m$ (OCH₂CH₂), $(CR_{40}R_{41})_{p''}Y''(CR_{24}R_{25})_q(CO)_tX''$
- $-O(CR_{20}R_{21})_m(pyrrolo)_t/(CR_{22}R_{23})_n(OCH_2CH_2)_p$ $(CR_{40}R_{41})_{p''}Y''(CR_{24}R_{25})_q(CO)_tX''$
- $-O(CR_{20}R_{21})_mA''_{m''}(CR_{22}R_{23})_n(OCH_2CH_2)_p$ $(CR_{40}R_{41})_{p''}Y''(CR_{24}R_{25})_q(CO)_tX'',$
- $-S(CR_{20}R_{21})_m(CR_{22}R_{23})_n(OCH_2CH_2)_p(CR_{40}R_{41})_{p''}Y''$ $(CR_{24}R_{25})_{a}(CO)_{r}X'',$
- $-S(CR_{20}R_{21})_m(CR_{26} = CR_{27})_m(CR_{22}R_{23})_n(OCH_2CH_2)_n$ $(CR_{40}R_{41})_{p''}Y''(CR_{24}R_{25})_q(CO)_tX''$
- $-S(CR_{20}R_{21})_m(alkynyl)_n(CR_{22}R_{23})_n(OCH_2CH_2)_p$ $(CR_{40}R_{41})_{p''}Y''(CR_{24}R_{25})_{q}(CO)_{t}X''$
- $-S(CR_{20}R_{21})_m$ (piperazino), $(CR_{22}R_{23})_p$ (OCH₂CH₂), $(CR_{40}R_{41})_{p''}Y''(CR_{24}R_{25})_{q}(CO)_{t}X'$
- $-S(CR_{20}R_{21})_m(pyrrolo)_t(CR_{22}R_{23})_n(OCH_2CH_2)_p$
- $\begin{array}{l} (\operatorname{CR}_{40}\operatorname{R}_{41})_{p'}\operatorname{Y}''(\operatorname{CR}_{24}\operatorname{R}_{25})_{q}(\operatorname{CO})_{t}\operatorname{X}'', \\ -\operatorname{S}(\operatorname{CR}_{20}\operatorname{R}_{21})_{m}\operatorname{A}''_{m''}(\operatorname{CR}_{22}\operatorname{R}_{23})_{n}(\operatorname{OCH}_{2}\operatorname{CH}_{2})_{p} \\ (\operatorname{CR}_{40}\operatorname{R}_{41})_{p''}\operatorname{Y}''(\operatorname{CR}_{24}\operatorname{R}_{25})_{q}(\operatorname{CO})_{t}\operatorname{X}'', \end{array}$
- $-NR_{33}(C = O)_{p''}(CR_{20}R_{21})_m(CR_{22}R_{23})_n(OCH_2CH_2)_p$ $(CR_{40}R_{41})_{p''}Y''(CR_{24}R_{25})_{q}(CO)_{t}X''$
- $-NR_{33}(C=O)_{p''}(CR_{20}R_{21})_m(CR_{26}=CR_{27})_m(CR_{22}R_{23})_n$ $(OCH_2CH_2)_p(CR_{40}R_{41})_{p''}Y''(CR_{24}R_{25})_q(CO)_tX'',$
- $-NR_{33}(C=O)_{p''}(CR_{20}R_{21})_m(alkynyl)_n(CR_{22}R_{23})_n$ $(OCH_2CH_2)_p(CR_{40}R_{41})_{p''}Y''(CR_{24}R_{25})_q$ — $(CO)_tX''$,
- $NR_{33}(C=O)_{p''}(CR_{20}R_{21})_{m}(piperazino)_{t}(CR_{22}R_{23})_{n}$ $(OCH_2CH_2)_p(CR_{40}R_{41})_{p''}Y''(CR_{24}R_{25})_q(CO)_tX'',$
- $-NR_{33}(C = O)_{p''}(CR_{20}R_{21})_m(pyrrolo)_{t'}(CR_{22}R_{23})_n$ $(OCH_2CH_2)_p(CR_{40}R_{41})_{p''}Y''(CR_{24}R_{25})_q(CO)_tX''$
- $-NR_{33}(C=O)_{p''}(CR_{20}R_{21})_{m}A''_{m''}(CR_{22}R_{23})_{n}(OCH_{2}CH_{2})_{p''}$ $(CR_{40}R_{41})_{p''}$ Ý" $(CR_{24}R_{25})_q(CO)_t$ X",
- $-(CR_{20}R_{21})_m(CR_{22}R_{23})_n(OCH_2CH_2)_p(CR_{40}R_{41})_{p''}Y''$ $(CR_{24}R_{25})_q(CO)_tX''$
- $-(CR_{20}R_{21})_m(CR_{26} = CR_{27})_m(CR_{22}R_{23})_n(OCH_2CH_2)_p$ $(CR_{40}R_{41})_{p''}Y''(CR_{24}R_{25})_q(CO)_tX''$
- $(CR_{20}R_{21})_m (alkynyl)_n (CR_{22}R_{23})_n (OCH_2CH_2)_n$ $(CR_{40}R_{41})_{n''}Y''(CR_{24}R_{25})_{a}(CO)_{t}X''$
- $-(CR_{20}R_{21})_m$ (piperazino)_{t'} $(CR_{22}R_{23})_n$ (OCH₂CH₂)_p $(CR_{40}R_{41})_{p''}Y''(CR_{24}R_{25})_{q}(CO)_{t}X'',$
- $-(CR_{20}R_{21})_mA''_{m''}(CR_{22}R_{23})_n(OCH_2CH_2)_p(CR_{40}R_{41})_{p''}Y''$ $(CR_{24}R_{25})_{a}(CO)_{t}X'',$
- $-(CR_{20}R_{21})_m(CR_{29}=N-NR_{30})_n (CR_{22}R_{23})_n OCH_2 CH_2)_p$ $(CR_{40}R_{41})_{p''}Y''(CR_{24}R_{25})_{q}(CO)_{t}X'',$
- $-(CR_{20}R_{21})_m(CR_{29}=N-NR_{30})_{n''}(CR_{26}=CR_{27})_{m'}$ $(CR_{22}R_{23})_n(OCH_2CH_2)_p(CR_{40}R_{41})_{p''}Y''(CR_{24}R_{25})_q$
- $-(CR_{20}R_{21})_mCR_{29}=N-NR_{30})_{n''}(alkynyl)_n(CR_{22}R_{23})_n$ $(OCH_2CH_2)_p(CR_{40}R_{41})_{p''}Y''(CR_{24}R_{25})_q^{-}(CO)_tX'',$
- $-(CR_{20}R_{21})_m(CR_{29}=N-NR_{30})_n$ "A"_m"($CR_{22}R_{23})_n$ $(OCH_2CH_2)_p(CR_{40}R_{41})_{p''}Y''(CR_{24}R_{25})_q(CO)_tX'',$

wherein:

m, n, p, q, m', n', t' are integer from 1 to 10, or are optionally

t, m", n", and p" are 0 or 1;

X" is selected from OR₃₆, SR₃₇, NR₃₈R₃₉, wherein R₃₆, R₃₇, R₃₈, R₃₉ are H, or linear, branched or cyclic alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl having from 1 to 20 carbon atoms and, or, a polyethylene glycol unit — $(OCH_2CH_2)_n$, R_{37} , optionally, is a thiol protecting group when t=1, COX" forms a reactive ester selected from N-hydroxysuccinimide esters, N-hydroxyphthalimide esters, N-hydroxy sulfo-succinimide esters, paranitrophenyl esters, dinitrophenyl esters, pentafluorophenyl esters and their derivatives, wherein said derivatives facilitate amide bond formation:

Y" is absent or is selected from O, S, S—S or NR₃₂, wherein R₃₂ has the same definition as given above for R; or when Y" is not S—S and t=0, X" is selected from a maleimido group, a haloacetyl group or SR₃₇, wherein R₃₇ has the same definition as above;

A" is a residue of an amino acid or a polypeptide containing between 2 to 20 amino acid units;

 R_{20} , R_{21} , R_{22} , R_{23} , R_{24} , R_{25} , R_{26} , and R_{27} are the same or different, and are -H or a linear or branched alkyl having from 1 to 5 carbon atoms;

R₂₉ and R₃₀ are the same or different, and are —H or alkyl from 1 to 5 carbon atoms;

R₃₃ is —H or linear, branched or cyclic alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl having from 1 to 12 carbon atoms, a polyethylene glycol unit R— $(OCH_2CH_2)_n$ —, or R_{33} is — COR_{34} , $-CSR_{34}$, $-SOR_{34}$, or $-SO_2R_{34}$, wherein R_{34} is H or linear, branched or cyclic alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl having from 1 to 20 carbon atoms or, a polyethylene glycol unit —(OCH₂ $CH_2)_n$; and

one of R₄₀ and R₄₁ is optionally a negatively or positively 35 charged functional group and the other is H or alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl having 1 to 4 carbon atoms.

Any of the above linking groups can be present in any of the compounds, drug-linker compounds, or conjugates of the invention, including replacing the linking groups of any of the formulas described herein.

The term "amino acid" refers to naturally occurring amino acids or non-naturally occurring amino acid. In one embodiment, the amino acid is represented by NH_2 — $C(R^{aa'}R^{aa})$ C(=O)OH, wherein R^{aa} and R^{aa'} are each independently H, 45 an optionally substituted linear, branched or cyclic alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl having 1 to 10 carbon atoms, aryl, heteroaryl or heterocyclyl or R^{aa} and the N-terminal nitrogen atom can together form a heteroycyclic ring (e.g., as in proline). The term "amino acid residue" refers to the correspond-50 ing residue when one hydrogen atom is removed from the amine and/or carboxy end of the amino acid, such as —NH— $C(R^{aa'}R^{aa})$ —C(=O)O

The term "cation" refers to an ion with positive charge. The cation can be monovalent (e.g., Na+, K+, etc.), bi-valent (e.g., 55 Ca²⁺, Mg²⁺, etc.) or multi-valent (e.g., Al³⁺ etc.). Preferably, the cation is monovalent.

The term "therapeutically effective amount" means that amount of active compound or conjugate that elicits the desired biological response in a subject. Such response 60 includes alleviation of the symptoms of the disease or disorder being treated, prevention, inhibition or a delay in the recurrence of symptom of the disease or of the disease itself, an increase in the longevity of the subject compared with the absence of the treatment, or prevention, inhibition or delay in the progression of symptom of the disease or of the disease itself. Determination of the effective amount is well within the capability of those skilled in the art, especially in light of the detailed disclosure provided herein. Toxicity and therapeutic efficacy of compound I can be determined by standard pharmaceutical procedures in cell cultures and in experimental animals. The effective amount of compound or conjugate of the present invention or other therapeutic agent to be administered to a subject will depend on the stage, category and status of the multiple myeloma and characteristics of the subject, such as general health, age, sex, body weight and drug tolerance. The effective amount of compound or conjugate of the present invention or other therapeutic agent to be administered will also depend on administration route and dosage form. Dosage amount and interval can be adjusted individually to provide plasma levels of the active compound that are sufficient to maintain desired therapeutic effects. Cytotoxic Compounds

In a first embodiment, the present invention is directed to cytotoxic compounds described herein (e.g., compounds of formulas (I), (II), (III), (IV), (V), and (VI) describe above or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof).

In one embodiment, the cytotoxic dimer is a compound of 20 formula (I):

In a 3^{rd} specific embodiment, R^e is H or Me; and the remaining variables are as described above in the first embodiment or the 1^{st} or 2^{nd} specific embodiment.

In a 4th specific embodiment, R^x is — $(CH_2)_p$ — (CR/R^g) —, wherein R^f and R^g are each independently selected from H or a linear or branched alkyl having 1 to 4 carbon atoms; p is 0, 1, 2 or 3; and the remaining variables are as described above in the first embodiment or the 1st, 2nd or 3rd embodiment.

In one embodiment, R^f and R^g are the same or different, and are selected from —H and -Me; and the remaining variables are as described above in the 4^{th} specific embodiment. More specifically, R^f and R^g are both -Me; and p is 2.

In a 5th specific embodiment, R^x is a linear or branched alkylene having 1 to 4 carbon atoms substituted with a charged substituent or an ionizable group Q; and the remaining variables are as described above in the first embodiment or the 1^{st} , 2^{nd} or 3rd embodiment.

In one embodiment, Q is i) $-SO_3H$, $-Z'-SO_3H$, $-OPO_3H_2$, $-Z'-OPO_3H_2$, $-PO_3H_2$, $-Z'-PO_3H_2$, $-CO_2H$, $-Z'-CO_2H$, $-NR_{11}R_{12}$, or $-Z'-NR_{11}R_{12}$, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; or, ii)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

In a 1^{st} specific embodiment, Z^s is represented by either one of the following formulas:

and the remaining variables are as described above in the first embodiment.

In a 2^{nd} specific embodiment, Z^s is —H or —SR^d; and the remaining variables are as described above the first embodiment.

In one embodiment, Z^s is —H; and the remaining variables are as described above in the 2^{nd} specific embodiment.

In another embodiments, Z^5 is —SR^d; R^d is -Me or pyridyl; 65 and the remaining variables are as described above in the 2^{nd} specific embodiment.

—N⁺R₁₄R₁₅R₁₆X⁻ or —Z'—N⁺R₁₄R₁₅R₁₆X⁻; Z' is an optionally substituted alkylene, an optionally substituted cycloalkylene or an optionally substituted phenylene; R₁₄ to R₁₆ are each independently an optionally substituted alkyl; X⁻ is a pharmaceutically acceptable anion; and the remaining variables are as described above as in the 5th specific embodiment. More specifically, Q is SO₃H or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

In a 6^{th} specific embodiment, the double line = between N and C represents a double bond; and the remaining variables are as described above in the first embodiment, or the 1^{st} , 2^{nd} , 3^{rd} , 4^{th} or 5^{th} specific embodiment.

In a 7th embodiment, the double line == between N and C represents a single bond; X is —H or an amine protecting group; Y is selected from —H, —SO₃M, —OH, —OMe, —OEt or —NHOHY is selected from —H, —SO₃M, —OH, —OMe, -OEt or —NHOH; and the remaining variables are as described above in the first embodiment, or the 1st, 2nd, 3rd 4th or 5th specific embodiment.

In one embodiment, Y is —H, — SO_3M or —OH; and the remaining variables are as described above in the 7^{th} specific embodiment. More specifically, M is H⁺, Na⁺or K.

In a 8th specific embodiment, X' is —H, —OH or -Me; and the remaining variables are as described above in the first embodiment, or the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th or 7th specific embodiment. More specifically, X' is —H.

In a 9th specific embodiment, Y' is —H or oxo; and the remaining variables are as described above in the first embodiment, or the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th or 8th specific embodiment. More specifically, Y' is —H.

In a 10th specific embodiment, for the compounds of formula (I), (II), (III), (IV), (V), and (VI), the double line == between N and C represents a single

the double line == between N and C represents a single bond or a double bond, provided that when it is a double bond X is absent and Y is —H, and when it is a single bond, X is 5—H; Y is —OH or —SO₃M;

M is —H or a pharmaceutically acceptable cation; X' and Y' are both —H; and

G is C; the remaining variables are as described above in the first embodiment, or the 1^{st} , 2^{nd} , 3^{rd} , 4^{th} , or 5^{th} specific embodiment.

In one embodiment, Y is —SO₃M and M is H⁺, Na⁺ or K⁺; and the remaining variables are as described above in the 10th specific embodiment.

In a 11^{th} specific embodiment, the compound is any one of the following:

MeO

`OMe

MeO

MeO

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein R^{d1} is 45 Me or Py; and M is a pharmaceutically acceptable cation. In one embodiment, M is H^+ , Na^+ or K^+ .

Drug Compounds & Drug-Linker Compounds

Certain cytotoxic compounds described above (e.g., compounds of formulas (I), (II), (III), (IV), (V) and (VI) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein Z^s is —H, —SSR d , —SC(O)R d1 or compounds described above having a free thiol —SH group) can further react with a bifunctional crosslinking reagent to form a drug-linker compound a reactive group bonded thereto, wherein the reactive group can form a covalent bond with a CBA.

The bifunctional crosslinking agents can be any bifunctional linker known in the art. For example, the bifunctional linkers can be used for making the drug-linker compounds are 60 those that form disulfide bonds, thioether bonds, acid labile bonds, photolabile bonds, peptidase labile bonds and esterase labile bonds with the cytotoxic compounds (see for example, U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,208,020; 5,475,092; 6,441,163; 6,716,821; 6,913,748; 7,276,497; 7,276,499; 7,368,565; 7,388,026 and 65 7,414,073, all of which are incorporated herein by reference). Preferably, the bifunctional crosslinking agents are those that

form disulfide bonds, thioether and peptidase labile bonds with the cytotoxic compounds. Other bifunctional crosslinking agents that can be used in the present invention include non-cleavable linkers, such as those described in U.S. publication number US 2005/0169933, or charged linkers or hydrophilic linkers and are described in US 2009/0274713, US 2010/01293140 and WO 2009/134976, each of which is expressly incorporated herein by reference. The bifunctional crosslinking agents that can be used for making the (druglinker) compounds of the present invention also include those described in *Thermo Scientific Pierce Crosslinking Technical Handbook*, the entire teaching of which is incorporated herein by reference.

In one embodiment, the bifunctional crosslinking agent is N-succinimidyl-4-(2-pyridyldithio)pentanoate (SPP), N-succinimidyl-4-(2-pyridyldithio)butanoate (SPDB), N-succinimidyl-4-(2-pyridyldithio)2-sulfo butanoate (sulfo-SPDB).

Synthesis of Cytotoxic Compounds

The cytotoxic compounds of the present invention can be prepared according to methods described in U.S. Pat. No. 8,765,740 and U.S. Application Publication No. 2012/0238731.

Representative processes for preparing the cytotoxic dimer compounds of the present invention are shown in Examples 1 and 2.

Cell-Binding Agents

The effectiveness of the conjugates of the invention as therapeutic agents depends on the careful selection of an appropriate cell-binding agent. Cell-binding agents can be of any kind presently known, or that become known, including peptides and non-peptides. Generally, these can be antibodies (such as polyclonal antibodies and monoclonal antibodies, especially monoclonal antibodies), lymphokines, hormones, growth factors, vitamins (such as folate etc., which can bind to a cell surface receptor thereof, e.g., a folate receptor), nutrient-transport molecules (such as transferrin), or any other cell-binding molecule or substance.

Selection of the appropriate cell-binding agent is a matter of choice that partly depends upon the particular cell population that is to be targeted, but in many (but not all) cases, human monoclonal antibodies are a good choice if an appropriate one is available. For example, the monoclonal antibody MY9 is a murine IgG_1 antibody that binds specifically to the CD33 Antigen (J. D. Griffin et al., *Leukemia Res.*, 8:521 (1984)), and can be used if the target cells express CD33 as in the disease of acute myelogenous leukemia (AML).

In certain embodiments, the cell-binding agent is not a protein. For example, in certain embodiments, the cell binding agent may be a vitamin that binds to a vitamin receptor, such as a cell-surface receptor. In this regard, vitamin A binds to retinol-binding protein (RBP) to form a complex, which complex in turn binds the STRA6 receptor with high affinity and increases vitamin A in-take. In another example, folic acid/folate/vitamin B_9 binds the cell-surface folate receptor (FR), for example, FR α , with high affinity. Folic acid or antibodies that bind to FR α can be used to target the folate receptor expressed on ovarian and other tumors. In addition, vitamin D and its analog bind to vitamin D receptor.

In other embodiments, the cell-binding agent is a protein or a polypeptide, or a compound comprising a protein or 40 polypeptide, including antibody, non-antibody protein, or polypeptide. Preferably, the protein or polypeptides comprise one or more Lys residues with side chain —NH $_2$ group. The Lys side chain —NH $_2$ groups can be covalently linked to the bifunctional crosslinkers, which in turn are linked to the 45 dimer compounds of the invention, thus conjugating the cell-binding agents to the dimer compounds of the invention. Each protein-based cell-binding agents can contain multiple Lys side chain —NH $_2$ groups available for linking the compounds of the invention through the bifunctional crosslinkers.

In one embodiment, GM-CSF, a ligand/growth factor which binds to myeloid cells can be used as a cell-binding agent to diseased cells from acute myelogenous leukemia. IL-2 which binds to activated T-cells can be used for prevention of transplant graft rejection, for therapy and prevention of graft-versus-host disease, and for treatment of acute T-cell leukemia. MSH, which binds to melanocytes, can be used for the treatment of melanoma, as can antibodies directed towards melanomas. Epidermal growth factor can be used to target squamous cancers, such as lung and head and neck. Somatostatin can be used to target neuroblastomas and other tumor types. Estrogen (or estrogen analogues) can be used to target breast cancer. Androgen (or androgen analogues) can be used to target testes.

In certain embodiments, the cell-binding agent can be a 65 lymphokine, a hormone, a growth factor, a colony stimulating factor, or a nutrient-transport molecule.

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In certain embodiments, the cell-binding agent is an antibody mimetic, such as an ankyrin repeat protein, a Centyrin, or an adnectin/monobody.

In other embodiments, the cell-binding agent is an antibody, a single chain antibody, an antibody fragment that specifically binds to the target cell, a monoclonal antibody, a single chain monoclonal antibody, a monoclonal antibody fragment (or "antigen-binding portion") that specifically binds to a target cell, a chimeric antibody, a chimeric antibody fragment (or "antigen-binding portion") that specifically binds to the target cell, a domain antibody (e.g., sdAb), or a domain antibody fragment that specifically binds to the target cell.

In certain embodiments, the cell-binding agent is a humanized antibody, a humanized single chain antibody, or a humanized antibody fragment (or "antigen-binding portion"). In a specific embodiment, the humanized antibody is huMy9-6 or another related antibody, which is described in U.S. Pat. Nos. 7,342,110 and 7,557,189. In another specific embodiment, the humanized antibody is an anti-folate receptor antibody described in U.S. Provisional Application Nos. 61/307,797, 61/346,595, and 61/413,172 and U.S. application Ser. No. 13/033,723 (published as US 2012/0009181 A1). The teachings of all these applications are incorporated berein by reference in its entirety.

In certain embodiments, the cell-binding agent is a resurfaced antibody, a resurfaced single chain antibody, a resurfaced antibody fragment (or "antigen-binding portion"), or a bispecific antibody.

In certain embodiments, the cell-binding agent is a minibody, an avibody, a diabody, a tribody, a tetrabody, a nanobody, a probody, a domain antibody, or an unibody.

In other words, an exemplary cell binding agent may include an antibody, a single chain antibody, an antibody fragment that specifically binds to the target cell, a monoclonal antibody, a single chain monoclonal antibody, a monoclonal antibody fragment that specifically binds to a target cell, a chimeric antibody, a chimeric antibody fragment that specifically binds to the target cell, a bispecific antibody, a domain antibody, a domain antibody fragment that specifically binds to the target cell, an interferon (e.g., α , β , γ), a lymphokine (e.g., IL-2, IL-3, IL-4, and IL-6), a hormone (e.g., insulin, thyrotropin releasing hormone (TRH), melanocyte-stimulating hormone (MSH), and a steroid hormone (e.g., androgen and estrogen)), a vitamin (e.g., folate), a growth factor (e.g., EGF, TGF-alpha, FGF, VEGF), a colony stimulating factor, a nutrient-transport molecule (e.g., transferrin; see O'Keefe et al. (1985) J. Biol. Chem. 260:932-937, incorporated herein by reference), a Centyrin (a protein scaffold based on a consensus sequence of fibronectin type III (FN3) repeats; see U.S. Patent Publication Nos. 2010/ 0255056, 2010/0216708 and 2011/0274623 incorporated herein by reference), an Ankyrin Repeat Protein (e.g., a designed ankyrin repeat protein, known as DARPin; see U.S. Patent Publication Nos. 2004/0132028, 2009/0082274, 2011/ 0118146, and 2011/0224100, incorporated herein by reference, and also see C. Zahnd et al., Cancer Res. (2010) 70:1595-1605; Zahnd et al., J. Biol. Chem. (2006) 281(46): 35167-35175; and Binz, H. K., Amstutz, P. & Pluckthun, A., Nature Biotechnology (2005) 23:1257-1268, incorporated herein by reference), an ankyrin-like repeats protein or synthetic peptide (see e.g., U.S. Patent Publication No. 2007/ 0238667; U.S. Pat. No. 7,101,675; WO 2007/147213; and WO 2007/062466, incorporated herein by reference), an Adnectin (a fibronectin domain scaffold protein; see US Patent Publication Nos. 2007/0082365; 2008/0139791, incorporated herein by reference), Avibody (including dia-

bodies, triabodies, and tetrabodies; see U.S. Publication Nos. 2008/0152586 and 2012/0171115), dual receptor retargeting (DART) molecules (P. A. Moore et al., *Blood*, 2011; 117(17): 4542-4551; Veri M C, et al., *Arthritis Rheum*, 2010 Mar. 30; 62(7):1933-43; Johnson S, et al. *J Mol Biol*, 2010 Apr. 9; 5399(3):436-49), cell penetrating supercharged proteins (*Methods in Enzymol*. 502, 293-319 (2012), and other cell-binding molecules or substances.

In certain embodiments, the cell-binding agent may be a ligand that binds to a moiety on the target cell, such as a 10 cell-surface receptor. For example, the ligand may be a growth factor or a fragment thereof that binds to a growth factor receptor; or may be a cytokine or a fragment thereof that binds to a cytokine receptor. In certain embodiments, the growth factor receptor or cytokine receptor is a cell-surface 15 receptor.

In certain embodiments, wherein the cell-binding agent is an antibody or an antigen-binding portion thereof (including antibody derivatives), or certain antibody mimetics, the CBA may bind to a ligand on the target cell, such as a cell-surface 20 ligand, including cell-surface receptors.

Specific exemplary antigens or ligands may include renin; a growth hormone (e.g., human growth hormone and bovine growth hormone); a growth hormone releasing factor; a parathyroid hormone; a thyroid stimulating hormone; a lipopro- 25 tein; alpha-1-antitrypsin; insulin A-chain; insulin B-chain; proinsulin; a follicle stimulating hormone; calcitonin; a luteinizing hormone; glucagon; a clotting factor (e.g., factor vmc, factor IX, tissue factor, and von Willebrands factor); an anti-clotting factor (e.g., Protein C); an atrial natriuretic fac- 30 tor; a lung surfactant; a plasminogen activator (e.g., a urokinase, a human urine or tissue-type plasminogen activator); bombesin; a thrombin; hemopoietic growth factor; tumor necrosis factor-alpha and -beta; an enkephalinase; RANTES (i.e., the regulated on activation normally T-cell expressed 35 and secreted); human macrophage inflammatory protein-1alpha; a serum albumin (human serum albumin); Muellerianinhibiting substance; relaxin A-chain; relaxin B-chain; prorelaxin; a mouse gonadotropin-associated peptide; a microbial protein (beta-lactamase); DNase; IgE; a cytotoxic 40 T-lymphocyte associated antigen (e.g., CTLA-4); inhibin; activin; a vascular endothelial growth factor; a receptor for hormones or growth factors; protein A or D; a rheumatoid factor; a neurotrophic factor (e.g., bone-derived neurotrophic factor, neurotrophin-3, -4, -5, or -6), a nerve growth factor 45 (e.g., NGF-β; a platelet-derived growth factor; a fibroblast growth factor (e.g., aFGF and bFGF); fibroblast growth factor receptor 2; an epidermal growth factor; a transforming growth factor (e.g., TGF-alpha, TGF-β1, TGF-β2, TGF-β3, TGF-β4, and TGF-β5); insulin-like growth factor-I and -II; 50 des(1-3)-IGF-I (brain IGF-I); an insulin-like growth factor binding protein; melanotransferrin; EpCAM; GD3; FLT3; PSMA; PSCA; MUC1; MUC16; STEAP; CEA; TENB2; an EphA receptor; an EphB receptor; a folate receptor; FOLR1; mesothelin; cripto; an alpha, beta; integrins; VEGF; 55 VEGFR; EGFR; transferrin receptor; IRTA1; IRTA2; IRTA3; IRTA4; IRTA5; CD proteins (e.g., CD2, CD3, CD4, CD5, CD6, CD8, CD11, CD14, CD19, CD20, CD21, CD22, CD25, CD26, CD28, CD30, CD33, CD36, CD37, CD38, CD40, CD44, CD52, CD55, CD56, CD59, CD70, CD79, CD80. 60 CD81, CD103, CD105, CD123, CD134, CD137, CD138, and CD152), one or more tumor-associated antigens or cell-surface receptors (see US Publication No. 20080171040 or US Publication No. 20080305044, incorporated in their entirety by reference); erythropoietin; an osteoinductive factor; an 65 immunotoxin; a bone morphogenetic protein; an interferon (e.g., interferon-alpha, -beta, and -gamma); a colony stimu84

lating factor (e.g., M-CSF, GM-CSF, and G-CSF); interleukins (e.g., IL-1 to IL-10); a superoxide dismutase; a T-cell receptor; a surface membrane protein; a decay accelerating factor; a viral antigen s (e.g., a portion of the HIV envelope); a transport protein, a homing receptor; an addressin; a regulatory protein; an integrin (e.g., CD11a, CD11b, CD11c, CD18, an ICAM, VLA-4, and VCAM;) a tumor associated antigen (e.g., HER2, HER3 and HER4 receptor); endoglin; c-Met; c-kit; 1GF1R; PSGR; NGEP; PSMA; PSCA; TMEFF2; LGRS; B7H4; and fragments of any of the above-listed polypeptides.

As used herein, the term "antibody" includes immunoglobulin (Ig) molecules. In certain embodiments, the antibody is a full-length antibody that comprises four polypeptide chains, namely two heavy chains (HC) and two light chains (LC) inter-connected by disulfide bonds. Each heavy chain is comprised of a heavy chain variable region (HCVR or VH) and a heavy chain constant region (CH). The heavy chain constant region is comprised of three domains, CH1, CH2, and CH3. Each light chain is comprised of a light chain variable region (LCVR or VL) and a light chain constant region, which is comprised of one domain, CL. The VH and VL regions can be further subdivided into regions of hypervariability, termed complementarity determining regions (CDRs). Interspersed with such regions are the more conserved framework regions (FRs). Each VH and VL is composed of three CDRs and four FRs, arranged from amino-terminus to carboxy-terminus in the following order: FR1, CDR1, FR2, CDR2, FR3, CDR3, and FR4.

In certain embodiments, the antibody is IgG, IgA, IgE, IgD, or IgM. In certain embodiments, the antibody is IgG1, IgG2, IgG3, or IgG4; or IgA1 or IgA2.

In certain embodiments, the cell-binding agent is an "antigen-binding portion" of a monoclonal antibody, sharing sequences critical for antigen-binding with an antibody (such as huMy9-6 or its related antibodies described in U.S. Pat. Nos. 7,342,110 and 7,557,189, incorporated herein by reference).

As used herein, the term "antigen-binding portion" of an antibody (or sometimes interchaneably referred to as "antibody fragments"), include one or more fragments of an antibody that retain the ability to specifically bind to an antigen. It has been shown that the antigen-binding function of an antibody can be performed by certain fragments of a fulllength antibody. Examples of binding fragments encompassed within the term "antigen-binding portion" of an antibody include (without limitation): (i) a Fab fragment, a monovalent fragment consisting of the VL, VH, CL and CH1 domains (e.g., an antibody digested by papain yields three fragments: two antigen-binding Fab fragments, and one Fc fragment that does not bind antigen); (ii) a F(ab')₂, fragment, a bivalent fragment comprising two Fab fragments linked by a disulfide bridge at the hinge region (e.g., an antibody digested by pepsin yields two fragments: a bivalent antigenbinding F(ab'), fragment, and a pFc' fragment that does not bind antigen) and its related F(ab') monovalent unit; (iii) a Fd fragment consisting of the VH and CH1 domains (i e, that portion of the heavy chain which is included in the Fab); (iv) a Fv fragment consisting of the VL and VH domains of a single arm of an antibody, and the related disulfide linked Fv; (v) a dAb (domain antibody) or sdAb (single domain antibody) fragment (Ward et al., Nature 341:544-546, 1989), which consists of a VH domain; and (vi) an isolated complementarity determining region (CDR). In certain embodiments, the antigen-binding portion is a sdAb (single domain antibody).

In certain embodiments, antigen-binding portion also include certain engineered or recombinant derivatives (or "derivative antibodies") that also include one or more fragments of an antibody that retain the ability to specifically bind to an antigen, in addition to elements or sequences that may 5 not be found in naturally existing antibodies.

For example, although the two domains of the Fv fragment, VL and VH, are coded for by separate genes, they can be joined, using standard recombinant methods, by a synthetic linker that enables them to be made as a single protein chain in which the VL and VH regions pair to form monovalent molecules (known as single chain Fv (scFv); see, e.g., Bird et al. Science 242:423-426, 1988: and Huston et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 85:5879-5883, 1988).

In all embodiments described herein, the N-terminum of an 15 scFv may be a VH domain (i.e., N—VH-VL-C), or a VL domain (i.e., N-VL-VH—C).

Divalent (or bivalent) single-chain variable fragments (discFvs, bi-scFvs) can be engineered by linking two scFvs. This produces a single peptide chain with two VH and two VL 20 regions, yielding a tandem scFvs (tascFv). More tandem repeats, such as tri-scFv, may be similarly produced by linking three or more scFv in a head-to-tail fashion.

In certain embodiments, scFvs may be linked through linker peptides that are too short (about five amino acids) for 25 the two variable regions to fold together, forcing scFvs to dimerize, and form diabodies (see, e.g., Holliger et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 90:6444-6448, 1993; Poljak et al., Structure 2:1121-1123, 1994). Diabodies may be bispecific or monospecific. Diabodies have been shown to have dissociation constants up to 40-fold lower than corresponding scFvs, i.e., having a much higher affinity to the target.

Still shorter linkers (one or two amino acids) lead to the formation of trimers, or so-called triabodies or tribodies. Tetrabodies have also been produced similarly. They exhibit an 35 even higher affinity to their targets than diabodies. Diabodies, triabodies, and tetrabodies are sometimes collectively called "AVIBODY" cell binding agents (or "AVIBODY" in short). That is, AVIBODY having two, three, or four Target Binding Regions (TBRs) are commonly known as Dia-, Tria-and Tetrabodies. See, for example, U.S. Publication Nos. 2008/0152586 and 2012/0171115 for details, the entire teachings of which are incorporated herein by reference.

All of these formats can be composed from variable fragments with specificity for two or more different antigens, in 45 which case they are types of bi- or multi-specific antibodies. For example, certain bispecific tandem di-scFvs, are known as bi-specific T-cell engagers (BiTEs).

In certain embodiments, each scFv in the tandem scFv or diabody/triabody/tetrabody may have the same or different 50 binding specificity, and each may independently have an N-terminal VH or N-terminal VL.

Single chain Fv (scFv) can also be fused to an Fc moiety, such as the human IgG Fc moiety to obtain IgG-like properties, but nevertheless they are still encoded by a single gene. 55 As transient production of such scFv-Fc proteins in mammalians can easily achieve milligram amounts, this derivative antibody format is particularly suitable for many research applications.

Fcabs are antibody fragments engineered from the Fc constant region of an antibody. Fcabs can be expressed as soluble proteins, or they can be engineered back into a full-length antibody, such as IgG, to create mAb2. A mAb2 is a full-length antibody with an Fcab in place of the normal Fc region. With these additional binding sites, mAb2 bispecific monoclonal antibodies can bind two different targets at the same time.

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In certain embodiments, the engineered antibody derivatives have reduced size of the antigen-binding Ig-derived recombinant proteins ("miniaturized" full-size mAbs), produced by removing domains deemed non-essential for function. One of the best examples is SMIPs.

A Small modular immunopharmaceutical, or SMIP, is an artificial protein largely built from parts of antibodies (immunoglobulins), and is intended for use as a pharmaceutical drug. SMIPs have similar biological half-life as antibodies, but are smaller than antibodies and hence may have better tissue penetration properties. SMIPs are single-chain proteins that comprise one binding region, one hinge region as a connector, and one effector domain. The binding region comprises a modified single-chain variable fragment (scFv), and the rest of the protein can be constructed from the Fc (such as CH2, and CH3 as the effector domain) and the hinge region of an antibody, such as IgG1. Genetically modified cells produce SMIPs as antibody-like dimers that are about 30% smaller than real antibodies.

Another example of such engineered miniaturized antibody is "unibody," in which the hinge region has been removed from IgG4 molecules. IgG4 molecules are unstable and can exchange light-heavy chain heterodimers with one another. Deletion of the hinge region prevents heavy chainheavy chain pairing entirely, leaving highly specific monovalent light/heavy heterodimers, while retaining the Fc region to ensure stability and half-life in vivo.

A single-domain antibody (sdAb, including but not limited to those called nanobody by Ablynx) is an antibody fragment consisting of a single monomeric variable antibody domain. Like a whole antibody, it is able to bind selectively to a specific antigen, but is much smaller due to its molecular weight of only 12-15 kDa. In certain embodiments, the single-domain antibody is engineered from heavy-chain antibodies (hcIgG). The first such sdAb was engineered based on an hcIgG found in camelids, called V_HH fragments. In certain embodiments, the single-domain antibody is engineered from IgNAR ("immunoglobulin new antigen receptor," see below) using a V_{NAR} fragment. Cartilaginous fishes (such as shark) have such heavy-chain IgNAR antibodies. In certain embodiments, the sdAb is engineered by splitting the dimeric variable domains from common immunoglobulin G (IgG), such as those from humans or mice, into monomers. In certain embodiments, a nanobody is derived from a heavy chain variable domain. In certain embodiments, a nanobody is derived from light chain variable domain. In certain embodiments, the sdAb is obtained by screening libraries of single domain heavy chain sequences (e.g., human single domain HCs) for binders to a target antigen.

The single variable new antigen receptor domain antibody fragments (V_{NAR} s, or V_{NAR} domains) are derived from cartilaginous fish (e.g., shark) immunoglobulin new antigen receptor antibodies (IgNARs). Being one of the smallest known immunoglobulin-based protein scaffolds, such single domain proteins demonstrate favorable size and cryptic epitope recognition properties. Mature IgNAR antibodies consist of homodimers of one variable new antigen receptor (V_{NAR}) domain and five constant new antigen receptor (C_{NAR}) domains. This molecule is highly stable, and possesses efficient binding characteristics. Its inherent stability can likely be attributed to both (i) the underlying Ig scaffold, which presents a considerable number of charged and hydrophilic surface exposed residues compared to the conventional antibody VH and VL domains found in murine antibodies; and (ii) stabilizing structural features in the complementary determining region (CDR) loops including inter-loop disulphide bridges, and patterns of intra-loop hydrogen bonds.

A minibody is an engineered antibody fragment comprising an scFv linked to a CH domain, such as the CH3 γ 1 (CH3 domain of IgG1) or CH4 ϵ (CH4 domain of IgE). For example, an scFv specific for carcinoembryonic antigen (CEA) has been linked to the CH3 γ 1 to create a minibody, which has 5 previously been demonstrated to possess excellent tumor targeting coupled with rapid clearance in vivo (Hu et al., *Cancer Res.* 56:3055-3061, 1996). The scFv may have a N-terminal VH or VL. The linkage may be a short peptide (e.g., two amino acid linker, such as ValGlu) that results in a non-covalent, hingeless minibody. Alternatively, the linkage may be an IgG1 hinge and a GlySer linker peptide that produces a covalent, hinge-minibody.

Natural antibodies are mono-specific, but bivalent, in that they express two identical antigen-binding domains. In contrast, in certain embodiments, certain engineered antibody derivatives are bi- or multi-specific molecules possess two or more different antigen-binding domains, each with different target specificity. Bispecific antibodies can be generated by fusing two antibody-producing cells, each with distinct specificity. These "quadromas" produced multiple molecular species, as the two distinct light chains and two distinct heavy chains were free to recombine in the quadromas in multiple configurations. Since then, bispecific Fabs, scFvs and full-size mAbs have been generated using a variety of technologies (see above).

The dual variable domain immunoglobulin (DVD-Ig) protein is a type of dual-specific IgG that simultaneously target two antigens/epitopes (DiGiammarino et al., *Methods Mol Biol.* 899:145-56, 2012). The molecule contains an Fc region and constant regions in a configuration similar to a conventional IgG. However, the DVD-Ig protein is unique in that each arm of the molecule contains two variable domains (VDs). The VDs within an arm are linked in tandem and can possess different binding specificities.

Trispecific antibody derivative molecules can also been generated by, for example, expressing bispecific antibodies with two distinct Fabs and an Fc. One example is a mouse IgG2a anti-Ep-CAM, rat IgG2b anti-CD3 quadroma, called BiUII, which is thought to permit the co-localization of tumor 40 cells expressing Ep-CAM, T-cells expressing CD3, and macrophages expressing FCγRI, thus potentiating the costimulatory and anti-tumor functions of the immune cells.

Probodies are fully recombinant, masked monoclonal antibodies that remain inert in healthy tissue, but are activated 45 specifically in the disease microenvironment (e.g., through protease cleavage by a protease enriched or specific in a disease microenvironment). See Desnoyers et al., *Sci Transl Med* 5:207ra144, 2013. Similar masking techniques can be used for any of the antibodies or antigen-binding portions 50 thereof described herein.

An intrabody is an antibody that has been modified for intracellular localization, for working within the cell to bind to an intracellular antigen. The intrabody may remain in the cytoplasm, or may have a nuclear localization signal, or may 55 have a KDEL sequence for ER targeting. The intrabody may be a single-chain antibody (scFv), nodified immunoglobulin VL domains with hyperstability, selected antibody resistant to the more reducing intracellular environment, or expressed as a fusion protein with maltose binding protein or other 60 stable intracellular proteins. Such optimizations have improved the stability and structure of intrabodies, and may have general applicability to any of the antibodies or antigenbinding portions thereof described herein.

The antigen-binding portions or derivative antibodies of 65 the invention may have substantially the same or identical (1) light chain and/or heavy chain CDR3 regions; (2) light chain

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and/or heavy chain CDR1, CDR2, and CDR3 regions; or (3) light chain and/or heavy chain regions, compared to an antibody from which they are derived/engineered. Sequences within these regions may contain conservative amino acid substitutions, including substitutions within the CDR regions. In certain embodiments, there is no more than 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 conservative substitutions. In an alternative, the antigen-binding portions or derivative antibodies have a light chain region and/or a heavy chain region that is at least about 90%, 95%, 99% or 100% identical to an antibody from which they are derived/engineered. These antigen-binding portions or derivative antibodies may have substantially the same binding specificity and/or affinity to the target antigen compared to the antibody. In certain embodiments, the K_d and/or k_{off} values of the antigen-binding portions or derivative antibodies are within 10-fold (either higher or lower), 5-fold (either higher or lower), 3-fold (either higher or lower), or 2-fold (either higher or lower) of an antibody described

In certain embodiments, the antigen-binding portions or derivative antibodies may be derived/engineered from fully human antibodies, humanized antibodies, or chimeric antibodies, and may be produced according to any art-recognized methods.

Monoclonal antibody techniques allow for the production of extremely specific cell-binding agents in the form of specific monoclonal antibodies. Particularly well known in the art are techniques for creating monoclonal antibodies produced by immunizing mice, rats, hamsters or any other mammal with the antigen of interest such as the intact target cell, antigens isolated from the target cell, whole virus, attenuated whole virus, and viral proteins such as viral coat proteins. Sensitized human cells can also be used. Another method of creating monoclonal antibodies is the use of phage libraries of 35 scFv (single chain variable region), specifically human scFv (see e.g., Griffiths et al., U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,885,793 and 5,969, 108; McCafferty et al., WO 92/01047; Liming et al., WO 99/06587). In addition, resurfaced antibodies disclosed in U.S. Pat. No. 5,639,641 may also be used, as may chimeric antibodies and humanized antibodies.

Cell-binding agent can also be peptides derived from phage display (see, for example, Wang et al., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* (2011) 108(17), 6909-6914) or peptide library techniques (see, for example, Dane et al., *Mol. Cancer. Ther.* (2009) 8(5):1312-1318).

In certain embodiments, the CBA of the invention also includes an antibody mimetic, such as a DARPin, an affibody, an affilin, an affitin, an anticalin, an avimer, a Fynomer, a Kunitz domain peptide, a monobody, or a nanofitin.

As used herein, the terms "DARPin" and "(designed) ankyrin repeat protein" are used interchangeably to refer to certain genetically engineered antibody mimetic proteins typically exhibiting preferential (sometimes specific) target binding. The target may be protein, carbohydrate, or other chemical entities, and the binding affinity can be quite high. The DARPins may be derived from natural ankyrin repeatcontaining proteins, and preferably consist of at least three, usually four or five ankyrin repeat motifs (typically about 33 residues in each ankyrin repeat motif) of these proteins. In certain embodiments, a DARPin contains about four- or fiverepeats, and may have a molecular mass of about 14 or 18 kDa, respectively. Libraries of DARPins with randomized potential target interaction residues with diversities of over 10¹² variants can be generated at the DNA level, for use in selecting DARPins that bind desired targets (e.g., acting as receptor agonists or antagonists, inverse agonists, enzyme inhibitors, or simple target protein binders) with picomolar

affinity and specificity, using a variety of technologies such as ribosome display or signal recognition particle (SRP) phage display. See, for example, U.S. Patent Publication Nos. 2004/0132028, 2009/0082274, 2011/0118146, and 2011/0224100, WO 02/20565 and WO 06/083275 for DARPin preparation 5 (the entire teachings of which are incorporated herein by reference), and also see C. Zahnd et al. (2010) *Cancer Res.*, 70:1595-1605; Zahnd et al. (2006) *J. Biol. Chem.*, 281(46): 35167-35175; and Binz, H. K., Amstutz, P. & Pluckthun, A. (2005) *Nature Biotechnology*, 23:1257-1268 (all incorporated herein by reference). Also see U.S. Patent Publication No. 2007/0238667; U.S. Pat. No. 7,101,675; WO 2007/147213; and WO 2007/062466 (the entire teachings of which are incorporated herein by reference), for the related ankyrinlike repeats protein or synthetic peptide.

Affibody molecules are small proteins engineered to bind to a large number of target proteins or peptides with high affinity, thus imitating monoclonal antibodies. An Affibody consists of three alpha helices with 58 amino acids and has a molar mass of about 6 kDa. They have been shown to withstand high temperatures (90° C.) or acidic and alkaline conditions (pH 2.5 or pH 11), and binders with an affinity of down to sub-nanomolar range have been obtained from naïve library selections, and binders with picomolar affinity have been obtained following affinity maturation. In certain 25 embodiments, affibodies are conjugated to weak electrophiles for binding to targets covalently.

Monobodies (also known as Adnectins), are genetically engineered antibody mimetic proteins capable of binding to antigens. In certain embodiments, monobodies consist of 94 amino acids and have a molecular mass of about 10 kDa. They are based on the structure of human fibronectin, more specifically on its tenth extracellular type III domain, which has a structure similar to antibody variable domains, with seven beta sheets forming a barrel and three exposed loops on each side corresponding to the three complementarity determining regions. Monobodies with specificity for different proteins can be tailored by modifying the loops BC (between the second and third beta sheets) and FG (between the sixth and seventh sheets).

A tribody is a self-assembly antibody mimetic designed based on the C-terminal coiled-coil region of mouse and human cartilage matrix protein (CMP), which self-assembles into a parallel trimeric complex. It is a highly stable trimeric targeting ligand created by fusing a specific target-binding moiety with the trimerization domain derived from CMP. The resulting fusion proteins can efficiently self-assemble into a well-defined parallel homotrimer with high stability. Surface plasmon resonance (SPR) analysis of the trimeric targeting ligands demonstrated significantly enhanced target-binding strength compared with the corresponding monomers. Cellular-binding studies confirmed that such tribodies have superior binding strength toward their respective receptors.

A Centyrin is another antibody mimetic that can be obtained using a library built upon the framework of a consensus FN3 domain sequence (Diem et al., *Protein Eng Des Sel.*, 2014). This library employs diversified positions within the C-strand, CD-loop, F-strand and FG-loop of the FN3 domain, and high-affinity Centyrin variants can be selected against specific targets.

In one embodiment, the cell-binding agent is an anti-folate receptor antibody. More specifically, the anti-folate receptor antibody is a humanized antibody or antigen binding fragment thereof that specifically binds a human folate receptor 1 (also known as folate receptor alpha $(FR-\alpha)$). The terms 65 "human folate receptor 1," "FOLR1," or "folate receptor alpha $(FR-\alpha)$ ", as used herein, refers to any native human

FOLR1, unless otherwise indicated. Thus, all of these terms can refer to either a protein or nucleic acid sequence as indicated herein. The term "FOLR1" encompasses "full-length," unprocessed FOLR1 as well as any form of FOLR1 that results from processing within the cell. The FOLR1 antibody comprises: (a) a heavy chain CDR1 comprising GYFMN (SEQ ID NO: 1); a heavy chain CDR2 comprising RIHPYDGDTFYNQXaa₁FXaa₂Xaa₃ (SEQ ID NO: 2); and a heavy chain CDR3 comprising YDGSRAMDY (SEQ ID NO: 3); and (b) a light chain CDR1 comprising KASQSVSF-AGTSLMH (SEQ ID NO: 4); a light chain CDR2 comprising RASNLEA (SEQ ID NO: 5); and a light chain CDR3 comprising QQSREYPYT (SEQ ID NO: 6); wherein Xaa1 is selected from K, Q, H, and R; Xaa2 is selected from Q, H, N, and R; and Xaa, is selected from G, E, T, S, A, and V. Preferably, the heavy chain CDR2 sequence comprises RIH-PYDGDTFYNQKFQG (SEQ ID NO: 7).

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In another embodiment, the anti-folate receptor antibody is a humanized antibody or antigen binding fragment thereof that specifically binds the human folate receptor 1 comprising the heavy chain having the amino acid sequence of QVQLVQSGAEVVKPGASVKISCKASGYT-FTGYFMNWVKQSPGQSLEWIGRIHP YDGDTFYNQK-

FQGKATLTVDKSSNTAHMELLSLTSED-

5 FAVYYCTRYDGSRA

MDYWGQGTTVTVSSASTKGPSVF-PLAPSSKSTSGGTAALGCLVKDYFPEPVTVS WNS-GALTSGVHTFPAVLQSSGLYSLSSV-

VTVPSSSLGTQTYICNVNHKPSNTKV

DKKVEPKSCDKTHTCPPCPAPELLGGPS-VFLFPPKPKDTLMISRTPEVTCVVVDV SHEDPEVK-FNWYVDGVEVHNAKTKPREEQYNSTYRV-VSVLTVLHQDWLNGKE

YKCKVSNKALPAPIEK-

TISKAKGQPREPQVYTLPPSRDELTKN-QVSLTCLVKGFY PSDIAVEWESNGQPENNYKTTPPV-LDSDGSFFLYSKLTVDKSRWQQGNVFSCSV MHEALHNHYTQKSLSLSPGK (SEQ ID NO: 8).

In another embodiment, the anti-folate receptor antibody is a humanized antibody or antigen binding fragment thereof encoded by the plasmid DNA deposited with the ATCC on Apr. 7, 2010 and having ATCC deposit nos. PTA-10772 and PTA-10773 or PTA-10774.

In another embodiment, the anti-folate receptor antibody is a humanized antibody or antigen binding fragment thereof that specifically binds the human folate receptor 1 comprising the light chain having the amino acid sequence of DIVLTQS-PLSLAVSLGQPAIISCKASQSVSF-

AGTSLMHWYHQKPGQQPRLLIYR ASNLEAGVPDRFSGSGSKTDFTLNISPVEAEDAATYYCQQSREYPYTFGGGTKL EIKRTVAAPSVFIFPPSDEQLKSGTASVVCLLNNFYPREAKVQWKVDNALQSGN SQESVTEQDSKDSTYSLSSTLTLSKADYEKHKVY-

ACEVTHQGLSSPVTKSFNRG EC (SEQ ID NO: 9); or DIVLTQSPLSLAVSLGQPAIISCKASQS-

VSFAGTSLMHWYHQKPGQQPRLLIYR ASNLEAGVP-DRFSGSGSKTDFTLTISPVEAEDAATYY-COOSREYPYTFGGGTKL

EIKRTVAAPSVFIFPPSDEQLKSGTASV-

0 VCLLNNFYPREAKVQWKVDNALQSGN SQESVTE-QDSKDSTYSLSSTLTLSKADYEKHKVY-ACEVTHQGLSSPVTKSFNRG EC (SEQ ID NO: 10).

In another embodiment the anti-folate receptor antibody is a humanized antibody or antigen binding fragment thereof that specifically binds the human folate receptor 1 comprising the heavy chain having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 8, and the light chain having the amino acid sequence of

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SEQ ID NO: 9 or SEQ ID NO: 10. Preferably, the antibody comprises the heavy chain having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 8 and the light chain having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 10 (hu FOLR1).

In another embodiment, the anti-folate receptor antibody is 5 a humanized antibody or antigen binding fragment thereof encoded by the plasmid DNA deposited with the ATCC on Apr. 7, 2010 and having ATCC deposit nos. PTA-10772 and PTA-10773 or 10774.

In another embodiment, the anti-folate receptor antibody is a humanized antibody or antigen binding fragment thereof that specifically binds the human folate receptor 1, and comprising a heavy chain variable domain at least about 90%, 95%, 99% or 100% identical to QVQLVQSGAEVVKPGAS-VKISCKASGYTFTGYFMNWVKQSPGQSLEWIGRIHP YDGDTFYNQKFQGKATLTVDKSSNTAH-

MELLSLTSEDFAVYYCTRYDGSRAM DYWGQGT-TVTVSS (SEQ ID NO: 11), and a light chain variable domain at least about 90%, 95%, 99% or 100% identical to DIV- 20 LTQSPLSLAVSLGQPAIISCKASQSVSF-

AGTSLMHWYHQKPGQQPRLLIYRA SNLEAGVPDRF-SGSGSKTDFTLNISPVEAEDAATYYCQQSREYPYTF-GGGTKLEI KR (SEQ ID NO: 12); or DIVLTQSPLSLAVS-LGQPAIISCKASQSVSFAGTSLMHWY-

HQKPGQQPRLLIYRA SNLEAGVPDRFSGSGSKTD-FTLTISPVEAEDAATYYCQQSREYPYTFGGGTKLEI KR (SEQ ID NO: 13).

In another embodiment, the anti-folated receptor antibody is huMov19 or M9346A (see, for example, U.S. Pat. No. 8,709,432, U.S. Pat. No. 8,557,966, and WO2011106528, all incorporated herein by reference).

In another embodiment, the cell-binding agent is an anti-EGFR antibody or an antibody fragment thereof. In one embodiment, the anti-EGFR antibody is a non-antagonist antibody, including, for example, the antibodies described in WO2012058592, herein incorporated by reference. In another embodiment, the anti-EGFR antibody is a non-functional antibody, for example, humanized ML66 or EGFR-8. 40 More specifically, the anti-EGFR antibody is huML66.

In yet another embodiment, the anti-EGFR antibody comprising the heavy chain having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 14, and the light chain having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 15. As used herein, double underlined sequences represent the variable regions (i.e., heavy chain variable region or HCVR, and light chain variable region or LCVR) of the heavy or light chain sequences, while bold sequences represent the CDR regions (i.e., from N-terminal to C-terminal, CDR1, CDR2, and CDR3, respectively, of the heavy chain or light chain sequences).

Anti- Full-Length Heavy/Light Chain body Amino Acid Sequence

huML66HC

QVQLQESGPGLVKPSETLSLTCTVSGLSLASNSVSWIRQ
PPGKGLEWMGVIWNHGGTDYNPSIKSRLSISRDTSKSQV
FLKMMSLTAADTAMYFCVRKGGIYFDYWGQGVLVTVSSA
STKGPSVFPLAPSSKSTSGGTAALGCLVKDYFPEPVTVS
WNSGALTSGVHTFPAVLQSSGLYSLSSVVTVPSSSLGTQ
TYICNVNHKPSNTKVDDDVEPKSCDKTHTCPPCPAPELL
GGPSVFLFPPKPKDTLMISRTPEVTCVVVDVSHEDPEVK
FNWYVDGVEVHNAKTKPREEQYNSTYRVVSVLTVLHQDW
LNGKEYKCKVSNKALPAPIEKTISKAKGQPREPQVYTLP
PSRDELTKNQVSLTCLVKGFYPSDIAVEWESNGQPENYY
KTTPPVLDSDGSFFLYSKLTVDKSWQQGNVFSCSVMHEA
LHNHYTQKSLSLSPG (SEQ ID NO: 14)

Anti- Full-Length Heavy/Light Chain
body Amino Acid Sequence

huML66LC DTVLTQSPSLAVSPGERATISCRASESVSTLMHWYQQKP
GQQPKLLIYLASHRESGVPARFSGSGSGTDFTLTIDPME
AEDTATYYCQQSRNDPWTFGQGTKLELKRTVAAPSVFIF
PPSDEQLKSGTASVVCLLNNFYPREAKVQWKVDNALQSG
NSQESVTEQDSKDSTYSLSSTLTLSKADYEKHKVYACEV
THQGLSSPVTKSFNRGEC (SEQ ID NO: 15)

In yet another embodiment, the anti-EGFR antibody comprises the heavy chain CDR1-CDR3 of SEQ ID NO: 14, and/or the light chain CDR1-CDR3 of SEQ ID NO: 15, and preferably specifically binds EGFR.

In yet another embodiment, the anti-EGFR antibody comprises a heavy chain variable region (HCVR) sequence at least about 90%, 95%, 97%, 99%, or 100% identical to SEQ ID NO: 14, and/or a light chain variable region (LCVR) sequence at least about 90%, 95%, 97%, 99%, or 100% identical to SEQ ID NO: 15, and preferably specifically binds EGFR.

In another embodiment, the anti-EGFR antibody are antibodies described in U.S. Pat. No. 8,790,649 and WO 2012/058588, herein incorporated by reference. In one embodiment, the anti-EGFR antibody is huEGFR-7R antiboby.

In one embodiment, the anti-EGFR antibody comprises an immunoglobulin heavy chain region having the amino acid sequence of

(SEQ ID NO: 16) QVQLVQSGAEVAKPGASVKLSCKASGYTF**TSYWMQ**WVKQRPGQGLECI

CTIYPGDGDTTYTQKFQGKATLTADKSSSTAYMQLSSLRSEDSAVYYC

ARYDAPGYAMDYWGQGTLVTVSSASTKGPSVFPLAPSSKSTSGGTAAL
GCLVKDYFPEPVTVSWNSGALTSGVHTFPAVLQSSGLYSLSSVVTVPS
SSLGTQTYICNVNHKPSNTKVDKKVEPKSCDKTHTCPPCPAPELLGGP
SVFLFPPKPKDTLMISRTPEVTCVVVDVSHEDPEVKFNWYVDGVEVHN
AKTKPREEQYNSTYRVVSVLTVLHQDWLNGKEYKCKVSNKALPAPIEK
TISKAKGQPREPQVYTLPPSRDELTKNQVSLTCLVKGFYPSDIAVEWE
SNGQPENNYKTTPPVLDSDGSFFLYSKLTVDKSRWQQNVGSCSVMHEA
LHNHYTQKSLSLSPG

and an immunoglobulin light chain region having the amino acid sequence of

(SEQ ID NO: 17)
DIQMTQSPSSLSASVGDRVTITCRASQDINNYLAWYQHKPGKGPKLLI

0 HYTSTLHPGIPSRFSGSGSGRDYSFSISSLEPEDIATYYCLQYDNLLY

TFGQGTKLEIKRTVAAPSVFIFPPSDEQLKSGTASVVCLLNNFYPREA
KVQWKVDNALQSGNSQESVTEQDSKDSTYSLSSTLTLSKADYEKHKVY

ACEVTHQGLSSPVTKSFNRGEC,

or an immunoglobulin light chain region having the amino acid sequence of

(SEO ID NO: 18)

DIQMTQSPSSLSASVGDRVTITCKASQDINNYLAWYQHKPGKGPKLLI

HYTSTLHPGIPSRFSGSGSGRDYSFSISSLEPEDIATYYCLQYDNLLY

 $\underline{\textbf{TFGQGTKLEIKR}} \texttt{TVAAPSVFIFPPSDEQLKSGTASVVCLLNNFYPREA}$

KVQWKVDNALQSGNSQESVTEQDSKDSTYSLSSTLTLSKADYEKHKVY

ACEVTHQGLSSPVTKSFNRGEC.

In another embodiment, the anti-EGFR antibody comprises an immunoglobulin heavy chain region having the 15 amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:16 and an immunoglobulin light chain region having the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:17.

In another embodiment, the anti-EGFR antibody comprises an immunoglobulin heavy chain region having the 20 amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:16 and an immunoglobulin light chain region having the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:18.

In yet another embodiment, the anti-EGFR antibody comprises the heavy chain CDR1-CDR3 of SEQ ID NO: 16, 25 and/or the light chain CDR1-CDR3 of SEQ ID NO: 17 or 18, and preferably specifically binds EGFR.

In yet another embodiment, the anti-EGFR antibody comprises a heavy chain variable region (HCVR) sequence at least about 90%, 95%, 97%, 99%, or 100% identical to SEQ 30 TKPREEQYNSTYRVVSVLTVLHQDWLNGKEYKCKVSNKALPAPIEKTI ID NO: 16, and/or a light chain variable region (LCVR) sequence at least about 90%, 95%, 97%, 99%, or 100% identical to SEQ ID NO: 17 or 18, and preferably specifically

In another embodiment, the cell-binding agent is an anti- 35 HNHYTQKSLSLSPGK CD19 antibody, such as those described in U.S. Pat. No. 8,435,528 and WO2004/103272, hereinin incorporated by reference. In one embodiment, the anti-CD19 antibody comprises an immunoglobulin heavy chain region having the amino acid sequence of QVQLVQPGAEVVKPGAS- 40 VKLSCKTSGYTFTSNWMHWVKQAPGQGLEWIGEID PSDSYTNYNQNFQGKAKLTVDKST-

STAYMEVSSLRSDDTAVYYCARGSNPYY YAMDY-WGQGTSVTVSSASTKGPSVF-

PLAPSSKSTSGGTAALGCLVKDYFPEPVT VSWNSGALTSGVHTFPAVLQSS-

GLYSLSSVVTVPSSSLGTOTYICNVNHKPSNTK

VDKKVEPKSCDKTHTCPPCPAPELLG-

GPSVFLFPPKPKDTLMISRTPEVTCVVVD VSHEDPE-VKFNWYVDGVEVHNAKTKPREEQYN-

STYRVVSVLTVLHQDWLNG

KEYKCKVSNKALPAPIEK-

TISKAKGQPREPQVYTLPPSRDELTKNQVSLTCLVKG FYPSDIAVEWESNGQPENNYKTTPPV-

LDSDGSFFLYSKLTVDKSRWQQGNVFSC HEALHNHYTQKSLSLSPGK (SEQ ID NO:19) and an immunoglobulin light chain region having the amino acid sequence of EIVLTQSPAIMSASPGERVTMTCSASS-GVNYMHWYQQKPGTSPRRWIYDTSKL ASGVPARF-SGSGSGTDYSLTISSMEPEDAATYY-

CHQRGSYTFGGGTKLEIKRTV

AAPSVFIFPPSDEQLKSGTASVVCLLNN-

FYPREAKVQWKVDNALQSGNSQESVT EQDSKD-STYSLSSTLTLSKADYEKHKVY-

ACEVTHQGLSSPVTKSFNRGEC (SEQ ID NO:20).

In another embodiment, the anti-CD19 antibody is huB4 antibody.

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In yet another embodiment, the anti-CD19 antibody comprises the heavy chain CDR1-CDR3 of SEQ ID NO: 19, and/or the light chain CDR1-CDR3 of SEQ ID NO: 20, and preferably specifically binds CD19.

In yet another embodiment, the anti-CD19 antibody comprises a heavy chain variable region (HCVR) sequence at least about 90%, 95%, 97%, 99%, or 100% identical to SEQ ID NO: 19, and/or a light chain variable region (LCVR) sequence at least about 90%, 95%, 97%, 99%, or 100% iden-10 tical to SEQ ID NO: 20, and preferably specifically binds

In yet another embodiment, the cell-binding agent is an anti-Muc1 antibody, such as those described in U.S. Pat. No. 7,834,155, WO 2005/009369 and WO 2007/024222, herein incorporated by reference. In one embodiment, the anti-Muc1 antibody comprises an immunoglobulin heavy chain region having the amino acid sequence of

(SEQ ID NO: 21)

QAQLVQSGAEVVKPGASVKMSCKASGYTFT**SYNMH**WVKQTPGQGLEWI

GYIYPGNGATNYNQKFQGKATLTADTSSSTAYMQISSLTSEDSAVYFC

<u>ARGDSVPFAYWGQGTLVTVSA</u>ASTKGPSVFPLAPSSKSTSGGTAALGC

 $\verb|LVKDYFPEPVTVSWNSGALTSGVHTFPAVLQSSGLYSLSSVVTVPSSS|$

LGTQTYICNVNHKPSNTKVDKKVEPKSCDKTHTCPPCPAPELLGGPSV

FLFPPKPKDTLMISRTPEVTCVVVDVSHEDPEVKFNWYVDGVEVHNAK

SKAKGQPREPQVYTLPPSRDELTKNQVSLTCLVKGFYPSDIAVEWESN

GQPENNYKTTPPVLDSDGSFFLYSKLTVDKSRWQQGNVFSCSVMHEAL

and an immunoglobulin light chain region having the amino acid sequence of

(SEQ ID NO: 22)

 $\underline{\texttt{EIVLTQSPATMSASPGERVTITC} \textbf{SAHSSVSFMH} \texttt{WFQQKPGTSPKLWIY}}$

STSSLASGVPARFGGSGSGTSYSLTISSMEAEDAATYYCQQRSSFPLT

FGAGTKLELKRTVAAPSVFIFPPSDEQLKSGTASVVCLLNNFYPREAK

VQWKVDNALQSGNSQESVTEQDSKDSTYSLSSTLTLSKADYEKHKVYA

CEVTHQGLSSPVTKSFNRGEC.

In another embodiment, the anti-Muc1 antibody is huDS6 50 antibody.

In yet another embodiment, the anti-Muc1 antibody comprises the heavy chain CDR1-CDR3 of SEQ ID NO: 21, and/or the light chain CDR1-CDR3 of SEQ ID NO: 22, and preferably specifically binds Muc1.

In yet another embodiment, the anti-Muc1 antibody comprises a heavy chain variable region (HCVR) sequence at least about 90%, 95%, 97%, 99%, or 100% identical to SEQ ID NO: 21, and/or a light chain variable region (LCVR) sequence at least about 90%, 95%, 97%, 99%, or 100% iden-60 tical to SEQ ID NO: 22, and preferably specifically binds

In another embodiment, the cell-binding agent is an anti-CD33 antibody or fragement thereof, such as the antibodies or fragements thereof described in U.S. Pat. Nos. 7,557,189, 7,342,110, 8,119,787 and 8,337,855 and WO2004/043344, herein incorporated by reference. In another embodiment, the anti-CD33 antibody is huMy9-6 antibody.

In one embodiment, the anti-CD33 antibody comprises an immunoglobulin heavy chain region having the amino acid sequence of

(SEQ ID NO: 23)

QVQLQQPGAEVVKPGASVKMSCKASGYTFTSYYIHWIKQTPGQGLEWV

GVIYPGNDDISYNQKFQGKATLTADKSSTTAYMQLSSLTSEDSAVYYC

AREVRLRYFDVWGQGTTVTVSSASTKGPSVFPLAPSSKSTSGGTAALG

CLVKDYFPEPVTVSWNSGALTSGVHTFPAVLQSSGLYSLSSVVTVPSS

SLGTQTYICNVNHKPSNTKVDKKVEPKSCDKTHTCPPCPAPELLGGPS

VFLFPPKPKDTLMISRTPEVTCVVVDVSHEDPEVKFNWYVDGVEVHNA

KTKPREEQYNSTYRVVSVLTVLHQDWLNGKEYKCKVSNKALPAPIEKT

ISKAKGQPREPQVYTLPPSRDELTKNQVSLTCLVKGFYPSDIAVEWES

NGQPENNYKTTPPVLDSDGSFFLYSKLTVDKSRWQQGNVFSCSVMHEA

LHNHYTOKSLSLSPG.

and an immunoglobulin light chain region having the amino acid sequence of

(SEQ ID NO: 24)

EIVLTQSPGSLAVSPGERVTMSCKSSQSVFFSSSQKNYLAWYQQIPGQ

SPRLLIYWASTRESGVPDRFTGSGSGTDFTLTISSVQPEDLAIYYCHQ

YLSSRTFGQGTKLEIKRTVAAPSVFIFPPSDEQLKSGTASVVCLLNNF

YPREAKVQWKVDNALQSGNSQESVTEQDSKDSTYSLSSTLTLSKADYE

KHKVYACEVTHOGLSSPVTKSFNRGEC.

In yet another embodiment, the anti-CD33 antibody comprises the heavy chain CDR1-CDR3 of SEQ ID NO: 23, and/or the light chain CDR1-CDR3 of SEQ ID NO: 24, and preferably specifically binds CD33.

In yet another embodiment, the anti-CD33 antibody comprises a heavy chain variable region (HCVR) sequence at least about 90%, 95%, 97%, 99%, or 100% identical to SEQ ID NO: 23, and/or a light chain variable region (LCVR) sequence at least about 90%, 95%, 97%, 99%, or 100% identical to SEQ ID NO: 24, and preferably specifically binds CD33.

In another embodiment, the cell-binding agent is an anti-CD37 antibody or an antibody fragment thereof, such as those described in U.S. Pat. No. 8,765,917 and WO 2011/112978, herein incorporated by reference. In one embodiment, the anti-CD37 antibody is huCD37-3 antibody.

In one embodiment, the anti-CD37 antibody comprises an immunoglobulin light chain region having the amino acid sequence of

(SEQ ID NO: 25)

<u>DIQMTQSPSSLSVSVGERVTITCRASENIRSNLAWYQQKPGKSPKLLV</u>

NVATNLADGVPSRFSGSGSGTDYSLKINSLQPEDFGTYYCQHYWGTTW

<u>TFGQGTKLEIKR</u>TVAAPSVFIFPPSDEQLKSGTASVVCLLNNFYPREA

 ${\tt KVQWKVDNALQSGNSQESVTEQDSKDSTYSLSSTLTLSKADYEKHKVY}$

ACEVTHQGLSSPVTKSFNRGEC

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and an immunoglobulin heavy chain region having the amino acid sequence of

(SEQ ID NO: 26) QVQVQESGPGLVAPSQTLSITCTVSGFSLT**TSGVS**WVRQPPGKGLEWL

 $\underline{\texttt{GVIWGDGSTN}} \texttt{YHPSLKSRLSIKKDHSKSQVFLKLNSLTAADTATYYCA}$

KGGYSLAHWGQGTLVTVSSASTKGPSVFPLAPSSKSTSGGTAALGCLV

KDYFPEPVTVSWNSGALTSGVHTFPAVLQSSGLYSLSSVVTVPSSSLG TQTYICNVNHKPSNTKVDKKVEPKSCDKTHTCPPCPAPELLGGPSVFL FPPKPKDTLMISRTPEVTCVVVDVSHEDPEVKFNWYVDGVEVHNAKTK

PREEQYNSTYRVVSVLTVLHQDWLNGKEYKCKVSNKALPAPIEKTISK AKGQPREPQVYTLPPSRDELTKNQVSLTCLVKGFYPSDIAVEWESNGQ PENNYKTTPPVLDSDGSFFLYSKLTVDKSRWQQGNVFSCSVMHEALHN

20 HYTOKSLSLSPG.

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or an immunoglobulin heavy chain region having the amino acid sequence of

(SEQ ID NO: 27)

QVQVQESGPGLVAPSQTLSITCTVSGFSLT**TSGVS**WVRQPPGKGLEWL

GVIWGDGSTNYHSSLKSRLSIKKDHSKSQVFLKLNSLTAADTATYYC.

30 KGGYSLAHWGQGTLVTVSSASTKGPSVFPLAPSSKSTSGGTAALGCLV
KDYFPEPVTVSWNSGALTSGVHTFPAVLQSSGLYSLSSVVTVPSSSLG
TQTYICNVNHKPSNTKVDKKVEPKSCDKTHTCPPCPAPELLGGPSVFL

FPPKPKDTLMISRTPEVTCVVVDVSHEDPEVKFNWYVDGVEVHNAKTK
PREEQYNSTYRVVSVLTVLHQDWLNGKEYKCKVSNKALPAPIEKTISK
AKGQPREPQVYTLPPSRDELTKNQVSLTCLVKGFYPSDIAVEWESNGQ
PENNYKTTPPVLDSDGSFFLYSKLTVDKSRWQQGNVFSCSVMHEALHN

HYTOKSLSLSPG

In another embodiment, the anti-CD37 antibody comprises an immunoglobulin light chain region having the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:25 and an immunoglobulin heavy chain region having the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:26.

In yet another embodiment, the anti-CD37 antibody comprises an immunoglobulin light chain region having the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:25 and an immunoglobulin heavy chain region having the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:27.

In yet another embodiment, the anti-CD37 antibody comprises the heavy chain CDR1-CDR3 of SEQ ID NO: 26 or 27, and/or the light chain CDR1-CDR3 of SEQ ID NO: 25, and preferably specifically binds CD37.

In yet another embodiment, the anti-CD37 antibody comprises a heavy chain variable region (HCVR) sequence at least about 90%, 95%, 97%, 99%, or 100% identical to SEQ ID NO: 26 or 27, and/or a light chain variable region (LCVR) sequence at least about 90%, 95%, 97%, 99%, or 100% identical to SEQ ID NO: 25, and preferably specifically binds CD37.

In yet another embodiment, the anti-CD37 antibody comprises an immunoglobulin light chain region having the amino acid sequence of (SEQ ID NO: 28)

<u>EIVLTQSPATMSASPGERVTMTC**SATSSVTYMH**WYQQKPGQSPKRWIY</u>

DTSNLPY GVPARFSGSGSGTSYSLTISSMEAEDAATYYC QQWSDNPPT

FGQGTKLEIKRTVAAPSVFIFPPSDEQLKSGTASVVCLLNNFYPREAK

VQWKVDNALQSGNSQESVTEQDSKDSTYSLSSTLTLSKADYEKHKVYA

CEVTHOGLSSPVTKSFNRGEC

and an immunoglobulin heavy chain region having the amino acid sequence of $% \left\{ 1,2,\ldots ,n\right\}$

(SEQ ID NO: 29)

OVOLOESGPGLLKPSOSLSLTCTVSGYSIT**SGFAWH**WIROHPGNKLEW

MGYILYSGSTVYSPSLKSRISITRDTSKNHFFLQLNSVTAADTATYYC

ARGYYGYGAWFAYWGQGTLVTVSAASTKGPSVFPLAPSSKSTSGGTAA

LGCLVKDYFPEPVTVSWNSGALTSGVHTFPAVLQSSGLYSLSSVVTVP

SSSLGTQTYICNVNHKPSNTKVDKKVEPKSCDKTHTCPPCPAPELLGG
PSVFLFPPKPKDTLMISRTPEVTCVVVDVSHEDPEVKPNWYVDGVEVH
NAKTKPREEQYNSTYRVVSVLTVLHQDWLNGKEYKCKVSNKALPAPIE

KTISKAKGQPREPQVYTLPPSRDELTKNQVSLTCLVKGFYPSDIAVEW
ESNGQPENNYKTTPPVLDSDGSFFLYSKLTVDKSRWQQGNVFSCSVMH
EALHNHYTQKSLSLSPG.

pound, epidermal growth factor (EGF)/cytotoxic compound, melanocyte stimulating hormone (MSH)/cytotoxic compound, thyroid stimulating hormone (TSH)/cytotoxic compound, somatostatin/cytotoxic compound, folate/cytotoxic compound, estrogen/cytotoxic compound, estrogen analogue/cytotoxic compound, and androgen analogue/cytotoxic compound.

In a preferred embodiment, the present invention provides conjugates comprising an indolinobenzodiazepine dimer compound (e.g., compounds of formulas (I)-(VI) or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof) and the cell-binding agent linked through a covalent bond. The linker can be cleaved at the site of the tumor/unwanted proliferating cells to deliver the cytotoxic agent to its target in a number of ways. The linker can be cleaved, for example, by low pH (hydrazone), reductive environment (disulfide), proteolysis (amide/peptide link), or through an enzymatic reaction (esterase/glycosi-

Thus in a second embodiment, the invention provides a conjugate comprising: a cytotoxic compound and a cell binding agent (CBA), wherein the cytotoxic compound is covalently linked to the CBA, and wherein the cytotoxic compound is represented by any one of the following formulas (I'), (II'), (III'), (IV'), (V') or (VI') or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof described above.

In certain embodiments, the conjugate comprises a CBA and a cytotoxic compound represented by the following formula:

In yet another embodiment, the anti-CD37 antibody comprises the heavy chain CDR1-CDR3 of SEQ ID NO: 29, and/or the light chain CDR1-CDR3 of SEQ ID NO: 28, and preferably specifically binds CD37.

In yet another embodiment, the anti-CD37 antibody comprises a heavy chain variable region (HCVR) sequence at least about 90%, 95%, 97%, 99%, or 100% identical to SEQ ID NO: 29, and/or a light chain variable region (LCVR) sequence at least about 90%, 95%, 97%, 99%, or 100% identical to SEQ ID NO: 28, and preferrably specifically binds 55 CD37.

In yet another embodiment, the anti-CD37 antibody is huCD37-50 antibody.

Cell-Binding Agent-Drug Conjugates

The present invention also provides cell-binding agent-60 drug conjugates comprising a cell-binding agent linked to one or more cytotoxic compounds of the present invention via a variety of linkers, including, but not limited to, disulfide linkers, thioether linkers, amide bonded linkers, peptidase-labile linkers, acid-labile linkers, esterase-labile linkers.

Representative conjugates of the invention are antibody/ cytotoxic compound, antibody fragment/cytotoxic comor a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

In a 1^{st} specific embodiment, Z^{s1} is represented by either one of the following formulas:

$$SO_3M$$
 SO_3M SO_3

and the remaining variables are as described above in the second embodiment.

In a 2^{nd} specific embodiment, R^e is H or Me; the remaining variables are as described above in the second embodiment or the 1^{st} specific embodiment.

In a 3^{rd} specific embodiment, R^x can be $-(CH_2)_p$ — (CR^fR^g) —, wherein R^f and R^g are each independently selected from H or a linear or branched alkyl having 1 to 4 carbon atoms; p is 0, 1, 2 or 3; and the remaining variables are as described above in the second embodiment or the 1^{st} or 2^{nd} specific embodiment.

In one embodiment, \mathbb{R}^f and \mathbb{R}^g are the same or different, and are selected from —H and -Me; and the remaining variables are as described above in the 3^{rd} specific embodiment. More specifically, \mathbb{R}^f and \mathbb{R}^g are both -Me; and p is 2.

In a 4th specific embodiment, R^x is a linear or branched alkylene having 1 to 4 carbon atoms substituted with a charged substituent or an ionizable group Q; and the remaining variables are as described above in the second embodiment or the 1st or 2nd specific embodiment.

In one embodiment, Q is i) —SO₃H, —Z'—SO₃H, —OPO₃H₂, —Z'—OPO₃H₂, —PO₃H₂, —Z'—PO₃H₂, —CO₂H, —X'—CO₂H, —NR₁₁R₁₂, or —Z'—NR₁₁R₁₂, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; or, ii) —N*R₁₄R₁₅R₁₆X⁻ or —Z'—N*R₁₄R₁₅R₁₆X⁻; Z' is an 25 optionally substituted alkylene, an optionally substituted cycloalkylene or an optionally substituted phenylene; R₁₄ to R₁₆ are each independently an optionally substituted alkyl; and X⁻ is a pharmaceutically acceptable anion; and the remaining variables are as described above in the 4th specific 30 embodiment. More specifically, Q is SO₃H or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

In a 5th specific embodiment, the double line == between N and C represents a double bond; and the remaining vari-

ables are as described above in the second embodiment or the 1^{st} , 2^{nd} , 3^{rd} or 4^{th} specific embodiment.

In a 6^{th} specific embodiment, the double line = between N and C represents a single bond; X is —H or an amine protecting group; Y is selected from —H, — SO_3M , —OH, —OMe, —OEt or —NHOH; and the remaining variables are as described above in the second embodiment or the 1^{st} , 2^{nd} , 3^{rd} or 4^{th} specific embodiment.

In one embodiment, Y is —H, —SO₃M or —OH; and the remaining variables are as described in the 6^{th} specific embodiment. More specifically, M is H⁺, Na⁺ or K⁺.

In a 7th embodiment, X' is —H, —OH or -Me; and the remaining variables are as described above in the second embodiment or the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th or 6th specific embodiment. More specifically, X' is —H.

In a 8^{th} specific embodiment, Y' is —H or oxo; and the remaining variables are as described above in the second embodiment or the 1^{st} , 2^{nd} , 3^{rd} , 4^{th} , 5^{th} , 6^{th} or 7^{th} specific embodiment. More specifically, Y' is —H.

In a 9th specific embodiment, for formulas (I'), (II'), (III'), (IV'), (V'), and (VI'), the double line == between N and C represents a single bond or a double bond, provided that when it is a double bond X is absent and Y is —H, and when it is a single bond, X is —H; Y is —OH or —SO₃M;

M is —H or a pharmaceutically acceptable cation;

X' and Y' are both —H;

G is C; and the remaining variables are as described above in the second embodiment or the 1^{st} , 2^{nd} , 3^{rd} or 4^{th} specific embodiment.

In one embodiment, Y is —SO₃M and M is H⁺, Na⁺ or K⁺; and the remaining variables are as described above the 9th specific embodiment.

In a 10^{th} specific embodiment, the conjugates of the invention include the following:

OMe

MeO

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein M is H⁺ or a pharmaceutically acceptable cation; and r is an integer from 1 to 10. More specifically, M is H⁺, Na⁺ or K⁺.

In a 11th specific embodiment, the conjugate is represented by any one of the following formulas:

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein M is H⁺ or a pharmaceutically acceptable cation; and r is an integer from 1 to 10. More specifically, M is H⁺, Na⁺ or K⁺. In a 11th specific embodiment, the conjugate is represented by any one of the following formulas:

ОМе

MeO

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein M is H⁺, Na⁺ or K⁺; and r is an integer from 1 to 10.

In certain embodiments, the conjugate of any one of the 20 described embodiments, such as those described in the second embodiment or the 1st to 11th specific embodiment, comprises 1-10 cytotoxic compounds, 2-9 cytotoxic compounds, 3-8 cytotoxic compounds, 4-7 cytotoxic compounds, or 5-6 cytotoxic compounds, each cytotoxic compound comprising the linking group linking the cytotoxic compound to the CBA, and each cytotoxic compound on the conjugate is the same.

In any of the above-described embodiments regarding conembodiment or the 1st to 11th specific embodiment, the cellbinding agent can bind to target cells selected from tumor cells, virus infected cells, microorganism infected cells, parasite infected cells, autoimmune cells, activated cells, myeloid cells, activated T-cells, B cells, or melanocytes; cells express- 35 ing the CD4, CD6, CD19, CD20, CD22, CD30, CD33, CD37, CD38, CD40, CD44, CD56, EpCAM, CanAg, CALLA, or Her-2 antigens; Her-3 antigens; or cells expressing insulin growth factor receptor, epidermal growth factor receptor, and folate receptor.

In any of the conjugates embodiments, such as those described in the second embodiment or the 1st to 11th specific embodiment, the cell-binding agent can be an antibody, a single chain antibody, an antibody fragment that specifically binds to the target cell, a monoclonal antibody, a single chain 45 monoclonal antibody, or a monoclonal antibody fragment that specifically binds to a target cell, a chimeric antibody, a chimeric antibody fragment that specifically binds to the target cell, a domain antibody, a domain antibody fragment that specifically binds to the target cell, a lymphokine, a hormone, 50 a vitamin, a growth factor, a colony stimulating factor, or a nutrient-transport molecule.

The antibody can be a resurfaced antibody, a resurfaced single chain antibody, or a resurfaced antibody fragment.

The antibody can be a monoclonal antibody, a single chain 55 monoclonal antibody, or a monoclonal antibody fragment

The antibody can be a humanized antibody, a humanized single chain antibody, or a humanized antibody fragment.

In any of the conjugates embodiments, such as those 60 described in the second embodiment or the 1st to 11th specific embodiment, the cell-binding agent can be anti-folate receptor antibody or an antibody fragement thereof. More specifically, the anti-folate receptor antibody is huMOV19 antibody.

In any of the conjugates embodiments, such as those 65 described in the second embodiment or the 1st to 11th specific embodiment, the cell-binding agent can be anti-EGFR anti-

body or an antibody fragement thereof. In one embodiment, the anti-EGFR antibody is a non-antagonist antibody, includexample, the antibodies described WO2012058592, herein incorporated by reference. In another embodiment, the anti-EGFR antibody is a non-functional antibody, for example, humanized ML66. More specifically, the anti-EGFR antibody is huML66.

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The invention further provides a pharmaceutical composition comprising any of the conjugates described herein, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

The invention further provides a drug-linker compound jugates of the invention, such as those described in the second 30 comprising any of the subject compound covalently linked to a bifunctional linker.

> The invention additional provides a conjugate comprising any of the subject compounds, or the subject drug-linker compounds, linked to a cell-binding agent.

> The invention further provides a method of inhibiting abnormal cell growth or treating a proliferative disorder, an autoimmune disorder, destructive bone disorder, infectious disease, viral disease, fibrotic disease, neurodegenerative disorder, pancreatitis or kidney disease in a mammal comprising administering to the mammal a therapeutically effective amount of any of the compounds (with or without any linker group) or conjugates of the invention, and, optionally, a second chemotherapeutic agent.

> In certain embodiments, the second chemotherapeutic agent is administered to the mammal sequentially or consecutively.

> In certain embodiments, the method is for treating a condition selected from cancer, rheumatoid arthritis, multiple sclerosis, graft versus host disease (GVHD), transplant rejection, lupus, myositis, infection, and immune deficiency.

> In certain embodiments, the method or conjugate is for treating a cancer.

> In certain embodiments, the cancer is a hematological cancer or a solid tumor. More specifically, the cancer is ovarian cancer, pancreatic cancer, melanoma, lung cancer (e.g., nonsmall cell lung cancer (NSCLC)), cervical cancer, breast cancer, squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck, prostate cancer, endometrial cancer, lymphoma (e.g., non-Hodgkin lymphoma), myelodysplastic syndrome (MDS), peritoneal cancer, or leukemia (e.g., acute myeloid leukemia (AML), acute monocytic leukemia, promyelocytic leukemia, eosinophilic leukaemia, acute lymphoblastic leukemia (e.g., B-ALL), chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL) and chronic myeloid leukemia (CML)).

Production of Cell-Binding Agent-Drug Conjugates

In order to link the cytotoxic compounds or derivative thereof of the present invention to the cell-binding agent, the

cytotoxic compound can comprise a linking moiety with a reactive group bonded thereto. In one embodiment, a bifunctional crosslinking reagent can be first reacted with the cytotoxic compound to provide the compound bearing a linking moiety with one reactive group bonded thereto (i.e., druglinker compound), which can then react with a cell binding agent. Alternatively, one end of the bifunctional crosslinking reagent can first react with the cell binding agent to provide the cell binding agent bearing a linking moiety with one reactive group bonded thereto, which can then react with a 10 cytotoxic compound. The linking moiety can contain a chemical bond that allows for the release of the cytotoxic moiety at a particular site. Suitable chemical bonds are well known in the art and include disulfide bonds, thioether bonds, acid labile bonds, photolabile bonds, peptidase labile bonds 15 and esterase labile bonds (see for example U.S. Pat. Nos. $5,208,020;\ 5,475,092;\ 6,441,163;\ 6,716,821;\ 6,913,748;$ 7,276,497; 7,276,499; 7,368,565; 7,388,026 and 7,414,073). Preferred are disulfide bonds, thioether and peptidase labile bonds. Other linkers that can be used in the present invention 20 include non-cleavable linkers, such as those described in are described in detail in U.S. publication number 2005/ 0169933, or charged linkers or hydrophilic linkers and are described in US 2009/0274713, US 2010/01293140 and WO 2009/134976, each of which is expressly incorporated herein 25 by reference, each of which is expressly incorporated herein by reference.

In one embodiment, a solution of a cell-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) in aqueous buffer may be incubated with a molar excess of a bifunctional crosslinking agent, such as N-succinimidyl-4-(2-pyridyldithio)pentanoate (SPP), N-succinimidyl-4-(2-pyridyldithio)butanoate (SPDB), N-succinimidyl-4-(2-pyridyldithio)2-sulfo butanoate (sulfo-SPDB) to introduce dithiopyridyl groups. The modified cell-binding agent (e.g., modified antibody) is then reacted with the thiolocontaining cytotoxic compound described herein, such as compound 1d or 2k, to produce a disulfide-linked cell-binding agent-cytotoxic agent conjugate of the present invention.

In another embodiment, the thiol-containing cytotoxic compound described herein, such as compound 1d or 2k can 40 react with a bifunctional crosslinking agent such as N-succinimidyl-4-(2-pyridyldithio)pentanoate (SPP), N-succinimidyl-4-(2-pyridyldithio)2-sulfo butanoate (sulfo-SPDB) to form a cytotoxic agent-linker compound, which can then react wth a 45 cell-biding agent to produce a disulfide-linked cell-binding agent-cytotoxic agent conjugate of the present invention. The cytotoxic agent-linker compound can be prepared in situ without purication before reacting with the cell-binding agent. A representative process is described in Example 3. Alternatively, the cytotoxic agent-linker compound can be purified prior to reacting with the cell-binding agent.

The cell binding agent-cytotoxic agent conjugate may be purified using any purification methods known in the art, such as those described in U.S. Pat. No. 7,811,572 and US Publication No. 2006/0182750, both of which are incorporated herein by reference. For example, the cell-binding agent-cytotoxic agent conjugate can be purified using tangential flow filtration, adsorptive chromatography, adsorptive filtration, selective precipitation, non-absorptive filtration or combination thereof. Preferably, tangential flow filtration (TFF, also known as cross flow filtration, ultrafiltration and diafiltration) and/or adsorptive chromatography resins are used for the purification of the conjugates.

Alternatively, the cell-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) 65 may be incubated with a molar excess of an antibody modifying agent such as 2-iminothiolane, L-homocysteine thi-

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olactone (or derivatives), or N-succinimidyl-S-acetylthioacetate (SATA) to introduce sulfhydryl groups. The modified antibody is then reacted with the appropriate disulfide-containing cytotoxic agent, to produce a disulfide-linked antibody-cytotoxic agent conjugate. The antibody-cytotoxic agent conjugate may then be purified by methods described above. The cell binding agent may also be engineered to introduce thiol moieties, such as cysteine-engineered antibodies disclosed in U.S. Pat. Nos. 7,772,485 and 7,855,275.

In another embodiment, a solution of a cell-binding agent (e.g., an antibody) in aqueous buffer may be incubated with a molar excess of an antibody-modifying agent such as N-succinimidyl-4-(N-maleimidomethyl)-cyclohexane-1-carboxy-late to introduce maleimido groups, or with N-succinimidyl-4-(iodoacetyl)-aminobenzoate (SIAB) to introduce iodoacetyl groups. The modified cell-binding agent (e.g., modified antibody) is then reacted with the thiol-containing cytotoxic agent to produce a thioether-linked cell-binding agent-cytotoxic agent conjugate. The conjugate may then be purified by methods described above.

The number of cytotoxic molecules bound per antibody molecule can be determined spectrophotometrically by measuring the ratio of the absorbance at 280 nm and 330 nm. An average of 1-10 cytotoxic compounds/antibody molecule(s) can be linked by the methods described herein. The preferred average number of linked cytotoxic compounds per antibody molecule is 2-5, and the most preferred is 2.5-4.0.

Representative processes for preparing the cell-binding agent-drug conjugates of the present invention are described in U.S. Pat. No. 8,765,740 and U.S. Application Publication No. 2012/0238731. The entire teachings of these references are incorporated herein by reference.

Cytotoxicity of Compounds and Conjugates

The cytotoxic compounds and cell-binding agent-drug conjugates of the invention can be evaluated for their ability to suppress proliferation of various cancer cell lines in vitro. Cells to be evaluated can be exposed to the compounds or conjugates for 1-5 days and the surviving fractions of cells measured in direct assays by known methods. IC $_{50}$ values can then be calculated from the results of the assays. Alternatively or in addition, an in vitro cell line sensitivity screen, such as the one described by the U.S. National Cancer Institute (see Voskoglou-Nomikos et al., 2003, Clinical Cancer Res. 9: 42227-4239, incorporated herein by reference) can be used as one of the guides to determine the types of cancers that are sensitive to treatment with the compounds or conjugates of the invention.

In one example, in vivo efficacy of a cell binding agent/cytotoxic agent conjugate was measured. SCID mice bearing NCI-H2110 tumor cells were treated with huMov19-sulfo-SPDB-1d conjugate and significant tumor regression was observed at multiple doses while untreated mice grew tumors rapidly (FIG. 2). Activity was observed at doses as low as 5 μ g/kg.

Compositions and Methods of Use

The present invention includes a composition (e.g., a pharmaceutical composition) comprising novel benzodiazepine compounds described herein (e.g., indolinobenzodiazepine or oxazolidinobenzodiazepine), derivatives thereof, or conjugates thereof, (and/or solvates, hydrates and/or salts thereof) and a carrier (a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier). The present invention also includes a composition (e.g., a pharmaceutical composition) comprising novel benzodiazepine compounds described herein, derivatives thereof, or conjugates thereof, (and/or solvates, hydrates and/or salts thereof) and a carrier (a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier), further comprising a second therapeutic agent. The present compo-

sitions are useful for inhibiting abnormal cell growth or treating a proliferative disorder in a mammal (e.g., human). The present compositions are also useful for treating depression, anxiety, stress, phobias, panic, dysphoria, psychiatric disorders, pain, and inflammatory diseases in a mammal (e.g., 5 human).

The present invention includes a method of inhibiting abnormal cell growth or treating a proliferative disorder in a mammal (e.g., human) comprising administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of novel benzodiazepine compounds described herein (e.g., indolinobenzodiazepine or oxazolidinobenzodiazepine), derivatives thereof, or conjugates thereof, (and/or solvates and salts thereof) or a composition thereof, alone or in combination with a second therapeutic agent.

The present invention also provides methods of treatment comprising administering to a subject in need of treatment an effective amount of any of the conjugates described above.

Similarly, the present invention provides a method for inducing cell death in selected cell populations comprising 20 contacting target cells or tissue containing target cells with an effective amount of a cytotoxic agent comprising any of the cytotoxic compound-cell-binding agents (e.g., indolinoben-zodiazepine or oxazolidinobenzodiazepine dimer linked to a cell binding agent) of the present invention, a salt or solvate 25 thereof. The target cells are cells to which the cell-binding agent can bind.

If desired, other active agents, such as other anti-tumor agents, can be administered along with the conjugate.

Suitable pharmaceutically acceptable carriers, diluents, 30 and excipients are well known and can be determined by those of ordinary skill in the art as the clinical situation warrants.

Examples of suitable carriers, diluents and/or excipients include: (1) Dulbecco's phosphate buffered saline, pH about 35 7.4, containing or not containing about 1 mg/mL to 25 mg/mL human serum albumin, (2) 0.9% saline (0.9% w/v NaCl), and (3) 5% (w/v) dextrose; and can also contain an antioxidant such as tryptamine and a stabilizing agent such as Tween 20.

The method for inducing cell death in selected cell populations can be practiced in vitro, in vivo, or ex vivo.

Examples of in vitro uses include treatments of autologous bone marrow prior to their transplant into the same patient in order to kill diseased or malignant cells: treatments of bone marrow prior to their transplantation in order to kill competent T-cells and prevent graft-versus-host-disease (GVHD); treatments of cell cultures in order to kill all cells except for desired variants that do not express the target antigen; or to kill variants that express undesired antigen.

The conditions of non-clinical in vitro use are readily deter- 50 mined by one of ordinary skill in the art.

Examples of clinical ex vivo use are to remove tumor cells or lymphoid cells from bone marrow prior to autologous transplantation in cancer treatment or in treatment of autoimmune disease, or to remove T cells and other lymphoid cells 55 from autologous or allogenic bone marrow or tissue prior to transplant in order to prevent GVHD. Treatment can be carried out as follows. Bone marrow is harvested from the patient or other individual and then incubated in medium containing serum to which is added the cytotoxic agent of the invention, 60 concentrations range from about 10 µM to 1 pM, for about 30 minutes to about 48 hours at about 37° C. The exact conditions of concentration and time of incubation, i.e., the dose, are readily determined by one of ordinary skill in the art. After incubation the bone marrow cells are washed with medium 65 containing serum and returned to the patient intravenously according to known methods. In circumstances where the

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patient receives other treatment such as a course of ablative chemotherapy or total-body irradiation between the time of harvest of the marrow and reinfusion of the treated cells, the treated marrow cells are stored frozen in liquid nitrogen using standard medical equipment.

For clinical in vivo use, the cytotoxic agent of the invention will be supplied as a solution or a lyophilized powder that are tested for sterility and for endotoxin levels. Examples of suitable protocols of conjugate administration are as follows. Conjugates are given weekly for 4 weeks as an intravenous bolus each week. Bolus doses are given in 50 to 1000 mL of normal saline to which 5 to 10 mL of human serum albumin can be added. Dosages will be $10~\mu g$ to 2000~mg per administration, intravenously (range of 100~ng to 20~mg/kg per day). After four weeks of treatment, the patient can continue to receive treatment on a weekly basis. Specific clinical protocols with regard to route of administration, excipients, diluents, dosages, times, etc., can be determined by one of ordinary skill in the art as the clinical situation warrants.

Examples of medical conditions that can be treated according to the in vivo or ex vivo methods of inducing cell death in selected cell populations include malignancy of any type including, for example, cancer; autoimmune diseases, such as systemic lupus, rheumatoid arthritis, and multiple sclerosis; graft rejections, such as renal transplant rejection, liver transplant rejection, and bone marrow transplant rejection; graft versus host disease; viral infections, such as CMV infection, HIV infection, AIDS, etc.; and parasite infections, such as giardiasis, amoebiasis, schistosomiasis, and others as determined by one of ordinary skill in the art.

Cancer therapies and their dosages, routes of administration and recommended usage are known in the art and have been described in such literature as the Physicians Desk Reference (PDR). The PDR discloses dosages of the agents that have been used in treatment of various cancers. The dosing regimen and dosages of these aforementioned chemotherapeutic drugs that are therapeutically effective will depend on the particular cancer being treated, the extent of the disease and other factors familiar to the physician of skill in the art and can be determined by the physician. The contents of the PDR are expressly incorporated herein in its entirety by reference. One of skill in the art can review the PDR, using one or more of the following parameters, to determine dosing regimen and dosages of the chemotherapeutic agents and conjugates that can be used in accordance with the teachings of this invention. These parameters include:

Comprehensive index

By Manufacturer

Products (by company's or trademarked drug name)

Category index

Generic/chemical index (non-trademark common drug names)

5 Color images of medications

Product information, consistent with FDA labeling

Chemical information

Function/action

Indications & Contraindications

Trial research, side effects, warnings

Analogues and Derivatives

One skilled in the art of cytotoxic agents will readily understand that each of the cytotoxic agents described herein can be modified in such a manner that the resulting compound still retains the specificity and/or activity of the starting compound. The skilled artisan will also understand that many of these compounds can be used in place of the cytotoxic agents

described herein. Thus, the cytotoxic agents of the present invention include analogues and derivatives of the compounds described herein.

All references cited herein and in the examples that follow are expressly incorporated by reference in their entireties.

EXAMPLES

The invention will now be illustrated by reference to non-limiting examples. Unless otherwise stated, all percents, ratios, parts, etc. are by weight. All reagents were purchased from the Aldrich Chemical Co., New Jersey, or other commercial sources. Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (¹H NMR) spectra were acquired on a Bruker 400 MHz instrument. Mass spectra were acquired on a Bruker Daltonics Esquire 3000 instrument and LCMS were aquired on an Agilent 1260 Infinity LC with an Agilent 6120 single quadropole MS using electrospray ionization.

-continued

200

1a

Compound 1a:

HC

To a stirred solution of (5-amino-1,3-phenylene)dimethanol (1.01 g, 6.59 mmol) in anhydrous dimethylformamide (16.48 mL) and anhydrous tetrahydrofuran (16.48 ml) was added 4-methyl-4-(methyldisulfanyl)pentanoic acid (1.281 g, 6.59 mmol), N-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)-N'-ethylcarbodiimide hydrochloride (2.53 g, 13.19 mmol), and 4-dimethylaminopyridine (0.081 g, 0.659 mmol). The resulting mixture was stirred for 18 hours at room temperature. The reaction was quenched with saturated ammonium chloride solution and extracted with ethyl acetate (3×50 mL). The organic extracts were washed with water and brine, then dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate. The solution was filtered and concentrated in vacuo and the resulting residue was purified by silica gel chromatography (Ethyl acetate/Hexanes) to obtain compound 1a as a white solid (0.70 g, 32% yield). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d6: δ 9.90 (s, 1H), 7.43 (s, 2H), 6.93 (s, 1H), 5.16 (t, 2H, J=5.7 Hz), 4.44 (d, 4H, J=5.7 Hz), 2.43 (s, 3H), 2.41-2.38 (m, 2H), 1.92-1.88 (m, 2H), 1.29 (s, 6H). MS (m/z). found 330.0 $(M+1)^+$.

HO OH

1a

1.
$$Et_3N$$
, Ms_2O

2.

OMe

IGN monomer, A

 K_2CO_3
 35%

OMe

MeO

N

OMe

Compound 1b:

To a cooled (-10° C.) solution of compound 1a (219 mg, 0.665 mmol) in anhydrous dichloromethane (6.65 mL) was added triethylamine (463 μ l, 3.32 mmol) followed by dropwise addition of methanesulfonic anhydride (298 mg, 1.662 5 mmol). The mixture stirred at -10° C. for 2 hours, then the mixture was quenched with ice water and extracted with cold ethyl acetate (2×30 mL). The organic extracts were washed with ice water, dried with anhydrous sodium sulfate, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain the crude 10 dimesylate.

The crude dimesylate (227 mg, 0.467 mmol) and IGN monomer A (303 mg, 1.028 mmol) were dissolved in anhydrous DMF (3.11 mL). Potassium carbonate (161 mg, 1.169 mmol) was added and the mixture stirred for 18 hours at room 15 temperature. Deionized water was added and the resulting precipitate was filtered and rinsed with water. The solid was re-dissolved in dichloromethane and washed with water. The organic layer was dried with anhydrous magnesium sulfate, filtered, and concentrated. The crude residue was purified by 20 silica gel chromatography (Methanol/Dichloromethane) to give compound 1b (227 mg, 36% yield). MS (m/z). found 882.5 (M+1)+.

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Compound 1c:

To a suspension of compound 1b (227 mg, 0.167 mmol) in anhydrous 1,2-dichloroethane (3.346 mL) was added sodium triacetoxyborohydride (37.3 mg, 0.167 mmol). The mixture was stirred at room temp for one hour upon which it was quenched with saturated ammonium chloride solution. The mixture was extracted with dichloromethane and washed with brine. The organic layer was dried with anhydrous magnesium sulfate, filtered and concentrated. The crude residue was purified by RP-HPLC (C18, Water/Acetonitrile). Fractions containing desired product were extracted with dichloromethane, dried with anhydrous magnesium sulfate, filtered and concentrated to give compound 1c (35 mg, 19% yield). MS (m/z). found 884.3 (M+1)+.

1b

1c

1d

Compound 1d:

To a solution of compound 1c (18 mg, 0.017 mmol) in acetonitrile (921 μ L) and methanol (658 μ L) was added tris (2-carboxyethyl)phosphine hydrochloride (17.51 mg, 0.060 mmol) (neutralized with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution (0.2 mL) in sodium phosphate buffer (132 μ L, 0.75 M, pH 6.5). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 3.5 hours, then diluted with dichloromethane and deionized water. The organic layer was separated, washed with brine, dried with anhydrous sodium sulfate, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure to obtain the crude thiol. MS (m/z), found 838.3 (M+1)+.

The crude thiol from step 5 (15.5 mg, 0.018 mmol) was dissolved in 2-propanol (1.23 mL). Deionized water ($617\,\mu$ L) 55 and sodium bisulfite (5.77 mg, 0.055 mmol) were added and the mixture stirred for five hours at room temperature. The reaction was frozen in an acetone/dry ice bath, lyophilized, and purified by RP-HPLC (C18, deionized water/acetonitrile). Fractions containing desired product were frozen and lyophilized to give compound (12S,12aS)-9-((3-(4-mer-capto-4-methylpentanamido)-5-((((R)-8-methoxy-6-oxo-11,12,12a,13-tetrahydro-6H-benzo[5,6][1,4]diazepino[1,2-a]indol-9-yl)oxy)methyl)benzyl)oxy)-8-methoxy-6-oxo-11, 12,12a,13-tetrahydro-6H-benzo[5,6][1,4]diazepino [1,2-a]

indole-12-sulfonic acid (compound 1d) (6.6 mg, 39% yield). MS (m/z). found 918.2 $(M-1)^-$.

Example 2

TBSO
$$Cs_2CO_3$$
 Mel

TBSO $OTBS$

TBSO $OTBS$
 $OTBS$

Compound 2b:

 Cs_2CO_3 (8.54 g, 26.2 mmol) was added to a stirred solution of aniline 1a (10.0 g, 26.2 mmol) in DMF (52.4 mL). Meth-65 yliodide (1.47 mL, 23.58 mmol) was added and the reaction was stirred at rt for 3 h. Water (10 mL) and EtOAc (30 mL) were added to the reaction mixture. The layers were separated

40

55

and was extracted with EtOAc (2×). The organic layers were washed with water (4x), dried over Na2SO4, filtered and concentrated. The crude residue was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (EtOAc/hexanes, gradient, 0% to 10%) to obtain compound 2b (3.8 g, 37% yield). ¹H NMR (400 ⁵ MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.629 (s, 1H), 6.515 (s, 2H), 4.673 (s, 4H), 2.838 (s, 3H), 0.942 (s, 18H), 0.102 (s, 12H).

Compound 2d:

N-methyl aniline (compound 2b) (500 mg, 1.26 mmol) and compound 2c (258 mg, 1.33 mmol) were dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (6.32 ml). EDC (484 mg, 2.53 mmol) and DMAP (77.0 mg, 0.632 mmol) were added and the reaction mixrure was stirred overnight at room temperature. The reaction was diluted with dichloromethane and was washed with saturated NH₄Cl and brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated. The crude residue was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (EtOAc/hexanes, gradient, 0% to 30% to 100%) to obtain 50 compound 2d a colorless oil (705 mg, 98% yield). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.236 (s, 1H), 7.016 (s, 2H), 4.744 (s, 4H), 3.242 (s, 3H), 2.336 (s, 3H), 2.190-2.153 (m, 2H), 1.924-1.884 (m, 2H), 1.137 (s, 6H), 0.940 (s, 18H), 0.106 (s, 12H).

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-continued

Compound 2e:

Compound 2d (700 mg, 1.22 mmol) was dissolved in THF (6.12 mL). 5 M aqueous HCl (4.89 mL, 24.47 mmol) was added at rt and was stirred for a total of 3.5 h. The reaction mixture was diluted with EtOAc and washed with sat'd NaHCO₃ and brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated. CH₃CN (15 mL) was added to the residue and was concentrated to dryness. This was repeated 3x to obtain compound 2e as a colorless oil (450 mg, 100% yield). LCMS (8 min method)=0.757 min Mass observed=344.25 (M+H). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) 87.340 (s, 1H), 7.119 (s, 2H), 4.736 (s, 4H), 3.252 (s, 3H), 2.348 (s, 3H), 2.172-2.152 (m, 2H), 1.930-1.890 (m, 2H), 1.165 (s, 6H).

Compound 2f:

Compound 2e (370 mg, 1.08 mmol) was dissolved in dichloromethane (7.18 mL). The solution was cooled to -5° C. and triethylamine (0.375 mL, 2.69 mmol) was then added, followed by slow dropwise addition of methanesulfonyl chloride (0.193 mL, 2.48 mmol) under an atmosphere of argon. The reaction mixture was stirred at -5° C. for 2.5 h. The reaction was quenched with ice/water and was diluted with EtOAc (15 mL). The layers were separated and the organic layer was washed with cold water (2x), dried over Na₂SO₄, 65 filtered and concentrated to give the crude compound 2f as a colorless oil (530 mg, 98% yield) and was taken onto the next step without purification. Mass observed=522.68 (M+Na).

2g

Compound 2g:

Dimesylate 2f (530 mg, 1.06 mmol) and IGN monomer A (723 mg, 2.33 mmol) were dissolved in anhydrous dimethylformamide (10.61 mL). Potassium carbonate (586 mg, 4.24 $_{\rm 45}$ mmol) was added and the reaction was stirred overnight at room temperature. Water (20 mL) was added to precipiate out

the product. The slurry was stirred for 5 min, filtered and dried under vacuum/ N_2 for 1 h. The crude residue was purified by silica gel flash chromatography (EtOAc/hexanes, 50% to 100%, then switched to 5% MeOH/CH₂Cl₂) to obtain 2g as a brownish solid (715 mg, 56% yield, 75% purity). LCMS (8 min method)=5.891 min Mass observed=896.50 (M+H).

2h

Compound 2h:

Compound 2g (440 mg, 0.368 mmol) was dissolved in 1,2-dichloroethane (3.68 mL). Sodium triacetoxyborohydride (78 mg, 0.368 mmol) was added and the reaction was stirred at rt under an atomosphere of argon for 1 h. The reaction mixture was diluted with dichloromethane and was washed with sat'd NH $_4$ Cl, brine, dried over Na $_2$ SO $_4$, filtered and concentrated. The crude reside was purified by RPHPLC (C18 column, CH $_3$ CN/H $_2$ O, gradient, 55% to 75%) to yield mono imine 2h as a white fluffy solid (125 mg, 34% yield). LCMS (15 min method)=8.847 min Mass observed=898.6 30 (M+H).

20 Compound 2j:

TCEP.HCl (108 mg, 0.376 mmol) was neutralized with water (~100 $\mu L)$ and sat'd aq. NaHCO $_3$ (~925 $\mu L)$. 0.1 M NaH $_2$ PO $_4$ buffer pH=6.5 (193 $\mu L)$ was added to the TCEP solution. In a separate flask, compound 2h (125 mg, 0.125 mmol) was dissolved in acetonitrile (1.35 mL) and tetrahydrofuran (900 μL). The TCEP/buffer mixture (pH=6.5-7) was added to the solution of compound 2h in acetonitrile, followed by the addition of methanol (964 μL). An additional tetrahydrofuran (200 μL) was added to get a clear homogeneous solution. The reaction mixture was stirred at rt for 3 h. The reaction was diluted with dichloromethane and water.

The layers were separated and the organic layer was washed with brine, dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated to give crude compound 2j, which was used in the next step without purification (118 mg, 100% yield). LCMS (8 mM method)=5.880 mM Mass observed=852.30 (M+H).

linker in 50 mM HEPES (4-(2-hydroxyethyl)-1-piperazine ethanesulfonic acid) pH 8.5 buffer and 15% v/v DMA (N,N-Dimethylacetamide) cosolvent was allowed to conjugate for 6 hours at 25° C. The in situ mixture was prepared by reacting 1.5 mM sulfo-SPDB linker with 1.95 mM of compound 1d in

2j

2k

Compound 2k:

The crude compound 2j (118 mg, 0.125 mmol) was suspended in 2-propanol (5.54 mL) and water (2.77 mL) and was sonicated for a few minutes. NaHSO₃ (130 mg, 1.25 mmol) was added and the reaction was stirred overnight at room temperature. The clear solution was diluted with CH₃CN/ $H_2\hat{O}(1:1, 15 \text{ mL})$ and was frozen and lyophilized. The resulting fluffy white powder was dissolved in CH₃CN/H₂O (1:1) and was purified by RPHPLC (C18 column, CH₃CN/H₂O, gradient, 25% to 45%) to obtain (12S,12aS)-9-((3-(4-mercapto-N,4-dimethylpentanamido)-5-((((S)-8-methoxy-6oxo-11,12,12a,13-tetrahydro-6H-benzo[5,6][1,4]diazepino [1,2-a]indol-9-yl)oxy)methyl)benzyl)oxy)-8-methoxy-6oxo-11,12,12a,13-tetrahydro-6H-benzo[5,6][1,4]diazepino [1,2-a]indole-12-sulfonic acid (compound 2k) as a white powder (65 mg, 56% yield, 98% purity). LCMS (15 mM method)=4.841 mM Mass observed=852.6 (ESI+, M-SO₃H+ H), 932.4 (ESI⁻, M-H).

Example 3

Preparation of huMOV19-sulfo-SPDB-1d

A reaction containing 2.0 mg/mL huMOV19 antibody and 6 molar equivalents of sulfo-SPDB-1d in situ mixture by

100% DMA for 4 hours in the presence of 10 mM N,N-Diisopropylethyl amine (DIPEA). Free thiol was then capped by adding a 3-fold excess of maleimido-propionic acid.

Post-reaction, the conjugate was purified and buffer exchanged into 100 mM Arginine, 20 mM Histidine, 2% sucrose, 0.01% Tween-20, 50 μ M sodium bisulfite formulation buffer pH 6.1 using NAP desalting columns (Illustra Sephadex G-25 DNA Grade, GE Healthcare). Dialysis was performed in the same buffer for 20 hours at 4° C. utilizing Slide-a-Lyzer dialysis cassettes (ThermoScientific 20,000 MWCO).

The purified conjugate was found to have an average of 2.5 molecules of compound 1d linked per antibody (by UV-Vis using molar extinction coefficients $\epsilon_{330~nm}$ =15,280 cm⁻¹M⁻¹ and $\epsilon_{280~nm}$ =30, 115 cm⁻¹M⁻¹ for compound 1d, and $\epsilon_{280~nm}$ =201,400 cm⁻¹M⁻¹ for huMOV19 antibody), 95% monomer (by size exclusion chromatography), <0.1% unconjugated compound 1d (by acetone precipitation, reversephase HPLC analysis) and a final protein concentration of 1.8 mg/ml. The conjugated antibody was found to be >80% intact by gel chip analysis.

Example 4

Antitumor Activity of Single-Dose huMOV19-Sulfo-SPDB-1d Against NCI-112110 NSCLC Xenografts in Female SCID Mice

Female CB.17 SCID mice, 6 weeks old, were received from Charles River Laboratories. Mice were inoculated with 1×10^7 NCI-H2110 tumor cells suspended in 0.1 ml 50% matrigel/serum free medium by subcutaneous injection in the 10 right flank. When tumor volumes reached approximately 100 mm³ (day 7 post inoculation), animals were randomized based on tumor volume into 3 groups of 6 mice each. Mice received a single IV administration of vehicle control (0.2 ml/mouse) or huMOV19-sulfo-SPDB-1d at 5 and 25 μ g/kg 15 based on concentration of compound 1d on day 1 (day 8 post inoculation).

Tumor size was measured twice to three times weekly in three dimensions using a caliper. The tumor volume was expressed in mm³ using the formula V=Length×Width× 20 Height×½. A mouse was considered to have a partial regression (PR) when tumor volume was reduced by 50% or greater, complete tumor regression (CR) when no palpable tumor could be detected. Tumor volume was determined by Study-Log software. Tumor growth inhibition (T/C Value) was 25 determined using the following formula:

T/C(%)=Median tumor volume of the treated/Median tumor volume of the control×100.

Tumor volume was determined simultaneously for treated 30 (T) and the vehicle control (C) groups when tumor volume of the vehicle control reached predetermined size of $1000~\text{mm}^3$. The daily median tumor volume of each treated group was determined, including tumor-free mice $(0~\text{mm}^3)$ According to NCI standards, a $T/C \le 42\%$ is the minimum level of antitumor activity. A $T/C \le 10\%$ is considered a high anti-tumor activity level.

As shown in FIG. 1, the conjugate is highly active at both 5 and 25 μ g/kg dose.

Example 5

Preparation of huML66-Sulfo-SPDB-1d Conjugate

Sulfo-SPDB-1d was formed in situ by incubating 3.0 mM 45 sulfo-SPDB, 3.9 mM compound 1d, and 20 mM DIPEA (N,N-diisopropylethylamine) in DMA (N, N-dimethylacetamide) for 5 hours at 25° C. A reaction containing 2.0 mg/mL huML66 antibody, an anti-EGFR antibody (see WO 2012/058592), and 5.8 molar equivalents of sulfo-SPDB-1d in 15 50 mM HEPES (4-(2-hydroxyethyl)-1-piperazine ethanesulfonic acid) pH 8.5 buffer and 15% v/v DMA cosolvent was incubated overnight at 25° C.

Post-reaction, the conjugate was purified into 10 mM histidine, $250\,\text{mM}$ glycine, 1% sucrose, 0.01% Tween- $20,50\,\mu\text{M}$ 55 sodium bisulfite pH 6.2 formulation buffer using NAP desalting columns (Illustra Sephadex G-25 DNA Grade, GE Healthcare). Dialysis was performed in the same buffer for 4 hours at room temperature and then overnight at 4% C. using Slide-a-Lyzer dialysis cassettes (ThermoScientific 30,000 60 MWCO)

The purified conjugate was found to have a final protein concentration of 2.9 mg/ml and an average of 3.0 molecules of compound 1d linked per antibody (by UV-Vis using molar extinction coefficients $\epsilon_{330~mm}=15,484~{\rm cm}^{-1}{\rm M}^{-1}$ and 65 $\epsilon_{280~nm}=30,115~{\rm cm}^{-1}{\rm M}^{-1}$ for compound 1d, and $\epsilon_{280~nm}=205$, 520 cm⁻¹M⁻¹ for huML66 antibody); 92.8% monomer (by

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size exclusion chromatography); and 0.8% unconjugated compound 1d (by acetone precipitation, reverse-phase HPLC analysis). The MS spectrometry data is shown in FIG. 3.

Example 6

In Vitro Cytotoxic Assays for Conjugates

The ability of huML66-sulfo-SPDB-1d conjugate to inhibit cell growth was measured using in vitro cytotoxicity assays. Target cells were plated at 1-2,000 cells per well in 100 μL in complete RPMI media (RPMI-1640, 10% fetal bovine serum, 2 mM glutamine, 1% penicillin-streptomycin, all reagents from Invitrogen). Antibodies were diluted into complete RPMI media using 3-fold dilution series and 100 µL were added per well. The final concentration typically ranged from 3×10^{-8} M to 4.6×10^{-12} M. Cells were incubated at 37° C. in a humidified 5% CO₂ incubator for 5-6 days. Viability of remaining cells was determined by colorimetric WST-8 assay (Dojindo Molecular Technologies, Inc., Rockville, Md., US). WST-8 is reduced by dehydrogenases in living cells to an orange formazan product that is soluble in tissue culture medium. The amount of formazan produced is directly proportional to the number of living cells. WST-8 was added to 10% of the final volume and plates were incubated at 37° C. in a humidified 5% CO2 incubator for an additional 2-4 hours. Plates were analyzed by measuring the absorbance at 450 nm (A450) in a multiwell plate reader. Background A450 absorbance of wells with media and WST-8 only was subtracted from all values. The percent viability was calculated by dividing each treated sample value by the average value of wells with untreated cells. Percent viability=100*(A450 treated sample-A450 background)/(A450 untreated sample-A450 background). The percent viability value was plotted against the antibody concentration in a semi-log plot for each treatment. Dose-response curves were generated by non-linear regression and the EC₅₀ value of each curve was calculated using GraphPad Prism (GraphPad software, San Diego, Calif.). In vitro cytotoxic activity.

The in vitro cytotoxicity of huML66-sulfo-SPDB-1d conjugate was evaluated in the presence and absence of excess unconjugated antibody and compared to the activity of a non-specific IgG-sulfo-SPDB-1d conjugate in EGFR-expressing cells and the results from a typical cytotoxicity assay are shown in FIG. 4. The huML66-sulfo-SPDB-1d conjugate resulted in specific cell killing of Detroit-562 SCC—HN cells with an EC₅₀ value of 110 pM. The presence of excess unconjugated antibody significantly reduced activity and resulting in an EC₅₀ value of approximately 1 nM.

Likewise, the huML66-sulfo-SPDB-1d conjugate resulted in specific cell killing of NCI-H292 NSCLC cells with an EC $_{50}$ value of 20 pM. The presence of excess unconjugated antibody significantly reduced activity and resulting in an EC $_{50}$ value of approximately 0.7 nM. Additionally, the huML66-sulfo-SPDB-1d conjugate resulted in specific cell killing of NCI-H1703 NSCLC cells with an EC $_{50}$ value of 70 pM. The presence of excess unconjugated antibody significantly reduced activity and resulting in an EC50 value of approximately 1 nM.

TABLE 1

Conjugate	Detroit562	NCI-H292	NCI-H1703
	EC50 in pM	EC50 in pM	EC50 in pM
huML66-sulfo-SPDB-1d huML66-sulfo-SPDB-1d + block	110 960	20 690	70 1,310

Example 7

Cytotoxicity Assay of huMOV19-Sulfo-SPDB-1d Conjugate

100 ul/well of huMOV19-sulfo-SPDB-1d conjugate was each diluted in RPMI-1640 (Life Technologies) supplemented with heat-inactived 10% FBS (Life Technologies) and 0.1 mg/ml gentamycin (Life Technologies) in a 96-well plate (Corning, flat bottom) at starting concentrations of 3.5e-9 M and to 3.5e-8 M in triplicate and serially diluted 3-fold in media above at ambient temperature. KB cells (buccal epithelial tumor), grown in EMEM (ATCC) supplemented with heat-inactived 10% FBS (Life Technologies) and 0.1 mg/ml gentamycin (Life Technologies), were washed once in PBS and removed with 0.05% trypsin-EDTA (Life Technologies). Other cells tested were NCI-H2110 (NSCLC) and T47D (breat epthelial) grown in RPMI-1640 (LifeTechnologies) supplemented with heat-inactived 10% FBS (Life Tech- $_{
m 20}$ nologies) and 0.1 mg/ml gentamycin (Life Technologies). T47D media also was supplemented with 0.2 IU/ml bovine insulin. All cells were resuspended in growth media (see above) to neutralize trypsin and counted using a hemacytometer. 100 µl/ml of 1000 KB cells/well or 2000 T47D and NCI-H2110 cells/well were added to wells containing ADC or media only and incubated in a 37° C. incubator with 5% CO₂ for 5 days with and without 1 μM blocking anti-FOLR1 antibody (M9346A). Total volume is 200 µl/well. The starting concentration of each conjugate on KB cells was 3.5e-9 M 30 and for T47D and NCI-H2110 cells, the starting concentration of each conjguate was 3.5e-8 M. After incubation, cell viability was analyzed by addition of 20 μl/well WST-8 (Dojindo) and allowed to develop for 2 hr. Absorbance was nm were subtracted from absorbances at 450 nm Background in wells containing media only was further subtracted from corrected absorbances and surviving fraction (SF) of untreated cells was calculated in Excel. An XY graph of ADC concentration (M) vs. SF was created using Graph Pad Prism. 40

As shown in FIGS. 5-7 and Table 2, the conjugate is highly potent against KB cells, NCI-H2110 cells and T47D cells.

TABLE 2

huMOV19-	K	B	NCI-H	H2110	T47D			
sulfo-SPDB-1d	-Block	+Block	-Block	+Block	-Block	+Block		
IC ₅₀	8e-12M	6e-10M	3e-10M	2e-9M	1e-10M	9e-9M		

In another experiment, the ability of the conjugate to inhibit cell growth was measured using a WST-8-based in vitro cytotoxicity assay. Cells in 96-well plates (typically, 1×10^3 per well) were treated with the conjugate at various concentrations in an appropriate cell culture medium with a 55 total volume of 0.2 ml. Control wells containing cells and the medium but lacking test compounds, and wells containing medium only, were included in each assay plate. The plates were incubated for 4 to 6 days at 37° C. in a humidified atmosphere containing 6% CO₂. WST-8 reagent (10%, volume/volume; Dojindo Molecular Technologies) was then added to the wells, and the plates were incubated at 37° C. for 2 to 6 hours depending on a cell line. Then, the absorbance was measured on a plate reader spectrophotometer in the dual-wavelength mode 450 nm/620 nm, and the absorbance 65 at the 620 nm (nonspecific light scattering by cells) was subtracted. The resulting OD₄₅₀ values were utilized to cal-

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culate apparent surviving fractions of cells using GraphPad Prism v4 (GraphPad software, San Diego, Calif.). The apparent surviving fraction of the cells in each well was calculated by first correcting for the medium background absorbance and then dividing each value by the average of the values in the control wells (non-treated cells). Dose response curves were generated by non-linear regression using a sigmoidal curve fit with variable slope in Graph Pad Prism. IC₅₀ (inhibitory concentration 50%) was generated by the software.

The conjugate is active against the tested cell lines Ishikawa (endometrial cancer), KB (cervical cancer) and NCI-H2110 (non-small cell lung carcinoma) and T47D (breast cancer) as shown in FIG. 14. The cell-killing activity was FOLR1-dependent, since an excess of unmodified huMOV19 antibody (1 µM) markedly decreased potency of the conjugate (from 10 to 100-fold), Table 3, FIG. 14.

TABLE 3

	IC50, nM									
Cell line	huMOV19-sulfo-SPDB-1d	huMOV19-sulfo-SPDB-1d + unmodified huMOV19								
Ishikawa KB NCI-H2110 T47D	0.04 0.01 0.1 0.1	0.4 1.0 1.0 7.0								

Example 8

Bystander Killing Activity

100 μl/well of huMOV19-sulfo-SPDB-1d conjugate were read on a plate reader at 450 and 620 nm. Absorbances at 620 35 each diluted in RPMI-1640 (Life Technologies) supplemented with heat-inactived 10% FBS (Life Technologies), 0.1 mg/ml gentamycin (Life Technologies) and βME (Life Technologies) in a 96-well plate (Falcon, round bottom) at concentrations of 1 e-10 M and 4 e-10 M in sextuplicate. Both 300.19 cells (mouse) expressing recombinant FOLR1 (FR1#14) or no expression vector (parental) were counted on a hemacytometer. 50 µl/ml of 1000 FR1#14 cells/well were added to wells containing the conjugate or media only, 50 μl/ml of 2000 parental cells/well were added to wells containing the conjugate or media only and both FR1#14 and parental cells were added together to wells containing ADC or media only. All plates were incubated in a 37° C. incubator with 5% CO₂ for 4 days. Total volume was 150 μl/well. After incubation, cell viability was analyzed by addition of 75 μl/well Cell Titer Glo (Promega) and allowed to develop for 45 min Luminescence was read on a luminometer and background in wells containing media only was subtracted from all values. A bar graph of the average of each cell treatment was graphed using Graph Pad Prism.

> As shown in FIG. 8, huMov19-sulfo-SPDB-1d exhibits strong bystander killing activity.

Example 9

Flow Cytometry Assay for Binding Affinity of huMOV19-sSPBD-1d Conjugate

100 μl/well of the conjugate huMOV19-sulfo-SPDB-1d or the antibody huMOV19 were diluted in FACS buffer (1% BSA, 1×PBS) in a 96-well plate (Falcon, round bottom) at a starting concentration of 3×10-8 M in duplicate and serially diluted 3-fold in FACS buffer at 4° C. T47D cells (human

to NCI standards, a T/C \leq 42% is the minimum level of antitumor activity. A T/C<10% is considered a high anti-tumor activity level.

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As shown in FIG. 10, the conjugate is highly active at 5 μ g/kg dose and active at 3 μ g/kg dose.

Example 11

Antitumor Activity of Single-Dose huML66-Sulfo-SPDB-1d Against NCI-111703 NSCLC Xenografts in Female SCID Mice

Female CB.17 SCID mice, 6 weeks old, were received from Charles River Laboratories. Mice were inoculated with 5×10^6 NCI-H1703 tumor cells suspended in 0.2 ml 50% matrigel/serum free medium by subcutaneous injection in the right flank. When tumor volumes reached approximately 100 mm³ (day 16 post inoculation), animals were randomized based on tumor volume into 4 groups of 6 mice each. Mice received a single IV administration of vehicle control (0.1 ml/mouse) or huML66-sulfo-SPDB-1d at 5, 20, or 50 µg/kg based on compound 1d concentration on day 1 (day 17 post inoculation).

Tumor size was measured twice to three times weekly in three dimensions using a caliper. The tumor volume was expressed in mm³ using the formula V=Length×Width× Height×½. A mouse was considered to have a partial regression (PR) when tumor volume was reduced by 50% or greater, complete tumor regression (CR) when no palpable tumor could be detected. Tumor volume was determined by Study-Log software. Tumor growth inhibition (T/C Value) was determined using the following formula:

T/C(%)=Median tumor volume of the treated/Median tumor volume of the control×100.

Tumor volume was determined simultaneously for treated (T) and the vehicle control (C) groups when tumor volume of the vehicle control reached predetermined size of 1000 mm³. The daily median tumor volume of each treated group was determined, including tumor-free mice (0 mm³) According to NCI standards, a T/C≤42% is the minimum level of anti-tumor activity. A T/C<10% is considered a high anti-tumor activity level.

As shown in FIG. 11, the huML66-sulfo-SPDB-1d conjugate is highly active at 20 μg/kg and 50 μg/kg doses, with 20 μg/kg as the minimal effective dose (MED).

Example 12

Pharmacokinetics of Single-Dose huMov19-Sulfo-SPDB-1d in Female CD-1 Mice

Female CD-1 mice, 7 weeks old, were received from Charles River Laboratories. Mice received a single IV administration of huMov19-sulfo-SPDB-1d conjugate as a single intravenous bolus injection via a lateral tail vein. Each mouse received a dose of 2.5 mg/kg based on Ab. The dose and injected volume were individualized on the basis of the body weight of each mouse. Injections were carried out using a 1.0 mL syringe fitted with a 27 gauge, ½ inch needle. At 2 and 30 min, and at 2, 4 and 8 hours, and at 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 10, 14, 21 and 28 days after administration of huMov19-sulfo-SPDB-1d conjugate, mice were anesthetized by isoflurane inhalation, and approximately 150 μL of blood was collected from mice via the right retro-orbital blood sinus into a heparinized capillary tube. At each time point (from 0 to 21 days), blood was collected from all three mice in one group. Groups were bled

breast tumor) grown in RPMI-1640 (Life Technologies) supplemented with heat-inactived 10% FBS (Life Technologies), 0.1 mg/ml gentamycin (Life Technologies) and 0.2 IU bovine insulin/ml (Sigma) were washed once in PBS and removed with versene (Life Technologies). T47D cells were resuspended in growth media (see above) to neutralize versene and counted on a Coulter counter. Cells were then washed twice in cold FACS buffer, centrifuging in between washes at 1200 rpm for 5 min 100 μl/ml of 2×10⁴ cells/well were added to wells containing the conjugate, antibody or FACS buffer only and incubated at 4° C. for 2 hr. After incubation, cells were centrifuged as before and washed once in 200 µl/well cold FACS buffer. Cells were then stained with 200 μl/well FITC-conjugated Goat Anti-Human-IgG-Fcγ 15 secondary antibody (controls included were unstained cells and those stained with secondary antibody only) for 40 min at 4° C., centrifuged and washed once in 200 μl/well cold PBS. Cells were fixed in 200 µl/well 1% formaldehyde/PBS and stored at 4° C. After storage, cellular surface staining of 20 conjugate or antibody was detected using flow cytotometry on a FACS Calibur (BD Biosciences). The geometric means were plotted against the log concentration of the conjugate or antibody using GraphPad Prism and the EC₅₀ was calculated via non-linear 4-parameter logistic regression analysis.

As shown in FIG. 9A, the conjugate binds similarly to the surface of T47D cells expressing the target antigen as the unconjugated antibody in flow cytotometry, thereby demonstrating that binding is not affected by the conjugation process. The binding assay was repeated and similar results are 30 observed (see FIG. 9B)

Example 10

Antitumor Activity of Single-Dose huMOV19-Sulfo-SPDB-1d Against NCI-112110 NSCLC Xenografts in Female SCID Mice

Female CB.17 SCID mice, 6 weeks old, were received from Charles River Laboratories. Mice were inoculated with 1×107 NCI-H2110 tumor cells suspended in 0.1 ml 50% matrigel/serum free medium by subcutaneous injection in the right flank. When tumor volumes reached approximately 100 mm3 (day 7 post inoculation), animals were randomized based on tumor volume into 4 groups of 6 mice each. Mice received a single IV administration of vehicle control (0.2 ml/mouse) or huMOV19-sulfo-SPDB-1d at 1, 3 or 5 µg/kg based on concentration of compound 1d on day 1 (day 8 post inoculation).

Tumor size was measured twice to three times weekly in three dimensions using a caliper. The tumor volume was expressed in mm3 using the formula V=Length×Width× Height×½. A mouse was considered to have a partial regression (PR) when tumor volume was reduced by 50% or greater, complete tumor regression (CR) when no palpable tumor could be detected. Tumor volume was determined by Study-Log software.

Tumor growth inhibition (T/C Value) was determined using the following formula:

T/C(%)=Median tumor volume of the treated/Median tumor volume of the control×100.

Tumor volume was determined simultaneously for treated (T) and the vehicle control (C) groups when tumor volume of the vehicle control reached predetermined size of 1000 mm3. 65 The daily median tumor volume of each treated group was determined, including tumor-free mice (0 mm3). According

in turn; so that the mice in the set were not bled more than two times in a 24-hour period. At the final time point, 28 days post-administration, all mice were included for sample collection. Blood samples were centrifuged to separate the plasma. 30 μ l plasma was transferred to individual labeled microcentrifuge tubes for each sample and time point, and then stored frozen at -80° C. to allow subsequent analysis by ELISA to determine concentrations of total Ab (both unconjugated Ab and intact ADC) and intact conjugate.

As shown in FIG. 12, the huMov19-sulfo-SPDB-1d conjugate shows slow time-dependent release of benzodiazepine compound.

Example 13

Catabolite Enrichment by Affinity Capture with Protein A Resin

KB cells expressing folate receptor α (FR α) were cultured in 5×T150 tissue culture plates. Saturating amount of FR α -targeting huMov19-sulfo-SPDB-1d conjugate was incubated with KB cells for 24 hours at 37° C. in a humidified incubator buffered with 5% CO2. After 24 hours, the media containing cell-effluxed catabolites were harvested and pooled for the 25 following assay.

Saturating amount of anti-indolinobenzodiazepine anti-body was bound to a slurry of protein A resins by overnight incubation at 4° C. 1 mL of pre-bound protein A/anti-indolinobenzodiazepine antibody complex was incubated with 25 mL of media on an end-to-end rotator for several hours. The resins were centrifuged gently at 1,000 rpm, and the supernatant was decanted. The protein-A/anti-indolinobenzodiazepine antibody resins bound to the catabolites were washed with PBS. The catabolites were released into organic phase by acetone extraction. The catabolites were vacuum-dried overnight until the organic solution was completely evaporated. The catabolites were reconstituted with 20% acetonitrile in water, and analyzed by LC/MS.

MS Analysis

Cell catabolites were identified by UHPLC/MS/MS using Q-Exactive high resolution mass spec (Thermo). Extracted ion-chromatograms (XIC) were used to identify and characterize the target cell catabolites. All catabolite species containing the characteristic indolinobenzodiazepine (286 m/z) 45 mass signatures were identified (see FIG. 13).

Example 14

Antitumor Activity of Single-Dose huMov19-Sulfo-SPDB-1d Against NCI-112110 NSCLC Xenografts, Hec-1b Endometrial Xenografts and Ishikawa Endometrial Xenografts in Female CB.17 SCID Mice

Female CB.17 SCID mice, 6 weeks old, were received from Charles River Laboratories. One cohort of mice were inoculated with 1×10^7 NCI-H2110 tumor cells suspended in 0.1 ml 50% matrigel/serum free medium by subcutaneous injection in the right flank. The second cohort of mice were 60 inoculated with 1×10^7 Hec-1b tumor cells suspended in 0.1 ml serum free medium by subcutaneous injection in the right flank. The third cohort of mice were inoculated with 1×10^7 Ishikawa tumor cells suspended in 0.1 ml 50% matrigel/serum free medium by subcutaneous injection in the right 65 flank. When tumor volumes reached approximately 100 mm³ (NCI-H2110 on day 7, Hec-1b on day 7, and Ishikawa on day

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17 post inoculation), animals were randomized based on tumor volume into groups of 6 mice each.

Mice in the NCI-H2110 xenograft experiment received a single IV administration of vehicle control (0.2 ml/mouse) or huMov19-sulfo-SPDB-1d at 1, 3, or 5 μg/kg based on drug concentration on day 1 (day 8 post inoculation). Mice in the Hec-1b xenograft experiment received a single IV administration of vehicle control (0.2 ml/mouse) or huMov19-sulfo-SPDB-1d at 10 or 30 μg/kg or the non-targeting control conjugate chKTI-sulfo-SPDB-1d at 30 μg/kg based on drug concentration on day 1 (day 8 post inoculation). Mice in the Ishikawa xenograft experiment received a single IV administration of vehicle control (0.2 ml/mouse) or huMov19-sulfo-SPDB-1d at 10 or 30 μg/kg or the non-targeting control conjugate chKTI-sulfo-SPDB-1d at 30 μg/kg based on drug concentration on day 1 (day 18 post inoculation).

For all experiments, tumor size was measured twice to three times weekly in three dimensions using a caliper. The tumor volume was expressed in mm³ using the formula V=Length×Width×Height×½. A mouse was considered to have a partial regression (PR) when tumor volume was reduced by 50% or greater, complete tumor regression (CR) when no palpable tumor could be detected. Tumor volume was determined by StudyLog software.

Tumor growth inhibition (T/C Value) was determined using the following formula:

T/C(%)=Median tumor volume of the treated/Median tumor volume of the control×100.

Tumor volume was determined simultaneously for treated (T) and the vehicle control (C) groups when tumor volume of the vehicle control reached predetermined size of $1000~\text{mm}^3$. The daily median tumor volume of each treated group was determined, including tumor-free mice $(0~\text{mm}^3)$ According to NCI standards, a T/C<42% is the minimum level of antitumor activity. A T/C<10% is considered a high anti-tumor activity level.

As shown in FIG. 15, the huMov19-sulfo-SPDB-1d conjugate was inactive in the NCI-H2110 xenograft model at a dose of 1 μ g/kg, active at a dose of 3 μ g/kg with a T/C of 12% and highly active at a dose of 5 μ g/kg with a T/C of 4%, 6/6 PRs and 3/6 CRs.

As shown in FIG. 16, the huMov19-sulfo-SPDB-1d conjugate was active in Hec-1b xenograft model at both 10 μg/kg and 30 μg/kg dosesAs shown in FIG. 2, the huMov19-sulfo-SPDB-1d conjugate was active in the Hec-1b xenograft model at a dose of 10 μg/kg with a T/C of 22% and active at a dose of 30 μg/kg with a T/C of 13%, 1/6 PRs and 1/6 CRs. The non-targeting control conjugate chKTI-sulfo-SPDB-1d was inactive at a dose of 30 μg/kg.

As shown in FIG. 17, the huMov19-sulfo-SPDB-1d conjugate was active in the Ishikawa xenograft model at a dose of 10 μ g/kg with a T/C of 23%, 6/6 PRs and 6/6 CRs and active at a dose of 30 μ g/kg with a T/C of 11%, 6/6 PRs and 6/6 CRs. The non-targeting control conjugate chKTI-sulfo-SPDB-1d was active at a dose of 30 μ g/kg with a T/C of 22% and 3/6 PRs.

Example 15

Binding Affinity of CD123-Sulfo-SPDB-1d Conjugate

Binding affinity of the ADC conjugate of an exemplary humanized anti-CD123 antibody, huCD123-6Gv4.7S3 antibody, was assayed and compared to the corresponding unconjugated antibody by flow cytometry using HNT-34 cells.

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HNT-34 cells $(5\times10^4 \text{ cells per sample})$ were incubated with varying concentrations of the ADC and the unconjugated huCD123-6Gv4.7S3 antibody in 200 μL FACS buffer (DMEM medium supplemented with 2% normal goat serum). The cells were then pelleted, washed twice, and incubated for 1 hr with 100 µL of phycoerythrin (PE)-conjugated goat anti-human IgG-antibody (Jackson Laboratory). The cells were pelleted again, washed with FACS buffer and resuspended in 200 µL of PBS containing 1% formaldehyde. Samples were acquired using a FACSCalibur flow cytometer 10 with the HTS multiwell sampler, or a FACS array flow cytometer, and analyzed using CellQuest Pro (all from BD Biosciences, San Diego, US). For each sample the geomean fluorescence intensity for FL2 was calculated and plotted against the antibody concentration in a semi-log plot. A dose-15 response curve was generated by non-linear regression and the EC50 value of each curve, which corresponds to the apparent dissociation constant (Kd) of each antibody, was calculated using GraphPad Prism v4 (GraphPad software, San Diego, Calif.).

As shown in FIG. 18, conjugation only moderately affected the binding affinity of the exemplary anti-CD123 antibody.

Example 16

In Vitro Cytotoxic Activity for huCD123-Sulfo-SPDB-1d Conjugate

The ability of antibody-drug conjugates (ADC) of huCD123-6, an anti-CD123 antibody, to kill cells that express 3 CD123 on their cell surface was measured using in vitro cytotoxicity assays. The cell lines were cultured in culture medium as recommended by the cell supplier (ATCC or DSMZ). The cells, 2,000 to 10,000 in 100 µL of the culture medium, were added to each well of flat bottom 96-well 3 plates. To block Fc receptors on the cell surface, the culture medium was supplemented with 100 nM chKTI antibody (an antibody of the same isotype). Conjugates were diluted into the culture medium using 3-fold dilution series and 100 μL were added per well. To determine the contribution of 40 CD123-independent cytotoxicity, CD123 block (e.g., 100 nM of chCD123-6 antibody) was added to some wells prior to the conjugates. Control wells containing cells and the medium but lacking the conjugates, as well as wells contained medium only, were included in each assay plate. Assays were performed in triplicate for each data point. The plates were

incubated at 37° C. in a humidified 6% CO₂ incubator for 4 to 7 days. Then the relative number of viable cells in each well was determined using the WST-8 based Cell Counting Kit-8 (Dojindo Molecular Technologies, Inc., Rockville, Md.). The apparent surviving fraction of cells in each well was calculated by first correcting for the medium background absorbance, and then dividing each value by the average of the values in the control wells (non-treated cells). The surviving fraction of cells was plotted against conjugate concentration in semi-log plots.

Fifteen CD123-positive cell lines of different origin (AML, B-ALL, CML and NHL) were used in the study (Table 4). The majority of the cell lines were derived from patients carrying a malignancy with at least one negative prognostic factor (e.g., overexpression of P-glycoprotein, overexpression of EVIL, p53 alterations, DNMT3A mutation, FLT3 internal tandem duplication). The conjugates demonstrated high potency on these cell lines with IC₅₀ values ranging from sub-pM to low nM (Table 4).

TABLE 4

In vitro cytotoxicity of huCD123-6-90 conjugate against CD123-positive cell lines of different origin										
25	Cell Line	Origin	Negative Prognostic Factor	IC ₅₀ (M)						
	THP1	AML	p53 deletion	5.8E-11						
	SHI-1	AML	p53 gene alterations	3.2E-11						
	KO52	AML	p53 mutant, Pgp overexpression	4.1E-10						
	KASUMI-3	AML	EVI1 and Pgp overexpression	1.4E-10						
	KG-1	AML	p53 mutant, Pgp overexpression	4.1E-09						
80	OCI-AML2	AML	DNMT3A mutation	2.1E-10						
	HNT-34	AML	MECOM (EVI1) overexpression	5.9E-12						
	MV4-11	AML	FLT3 internal tadem duplication	1.3E-12						
	MOLM-13	AML	FLT3 internal tadem duplication	1.2E-12						
	EOL-1	AML		4.7E-12						
	MOLM-1	CML	EVI1 and Pgp overexpression	2.1E-10						
35	KOPN8	B-ALL		3.0E-11						
	JM-1	B-ALL		4.1E-10						
	KCL-22	CML		2.9E-10						

All publications, patents, patent applications, internet sites, and accession numbers/database sequences (including both polynucleotide and polypeptide sequences) cited herein are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety for all purposes to the same extent as if each individual publication, patent, patent application, internet site, or accession number/ database sequence were specifically and individually indicated to be so incorporated by reference.

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Thr	Leu	Ser	Leu 20	Thr	Cys	Thr	Val	Ser 25	Gly	Leu	Ser	Leu	Ala 30	Ser	Asn
Ser	Val	Ser 35	Trp	Ile	Arg	Gln	Pro 40	Pro	Gly	Lys	Gly	Leu 45	Glu	Trp	Met
Gly	Val 50	Ile	Trp	Asn	His	Gly 55	Gly	Thr	Asp	Tyr	Asn 60	Pro	Ser	Ile	ГÀа
Ser 65	Arg	Leu	Ser	Ile	Ser 70	Arg	Asp	Thr	Ser	Lys 75	Ser	Gln	Val	Phe	Leu 80
Lys	Met	Asn	Ser	Leu 85	Thr	Ala	Ala	Asp	Thr 90	Ala	Met	Tyr	Phe	Сув 95	Val
Arg	ГЛа	Gly	Gly 100	Ile	Tyr	Phe	Aap	Tyr 105	Trp	Gly	Gln	Gly	Val 110	Leu	Val
Thr	Val	Ser 115	Ser	Ala	Ser	Thr	Lys 120	Gly	Pro	Ser	Val	Phe 125	Pro	Leu	Ala
Pro	Ser 130	Ser	Lys	Ser	Thr	Ser 135	Gly	Gly	Thr	Ala	Ala 140	Leu	Gly	Cys	Leu
Val 145	Lys	Asp	Tyr	Phe	Pro 150	Glu	Pro	Val	Thr	Val 155	Ser	Trp	Asn	Ser	Gly 160
Ala	Leu	Thr	Ser	Gly 165	Val	His	Thr	Phe	Pro 170	Ala	Val	Leu	Gln	Ser 175	Ser
Gly	Leu	Tyr	Ser 180	Leu	Ser	Ser	Val	Val 185	Thr	Val	Pro	Ser	Ser 190	Ser	Leu
Gly	Thr	Gln 195	Thr	Tyr	Ile	CÀa	Asn 200	Val	Asn	His	rys	Pro 205	Ser	Asn	Thr
ГÀа	Val 210	Asp	Lys	Lys	Val	Glu 215	Pro	Lys	Ser	Сла	Asp 220	Lys	Thr	His	Thr
Сув 225	Pro	Pro	Cya	Pro	Ala 230	Pro	Glu	Leu	Leu	Gly 235	Gly	Pro	Ser	Val	Phe 240
Leu	Phe	Pro	Pro	Lys 245	Pro	Lys	Asp	Thr	Leu 250	Met	Ile	Ser	Arg	Thr 255	Pro
Glu	Val	Thr	Cys 260	Val	Val	Val	Aap	Val 265	Ser	His	Glu	Asp	Pro 270	Glu	Val
ГÀа	Phe	Asn 275	Trp	Tyr	Val	Asp	Gly 280	Val	Glu	Val	His	Asn 285	Ala	rys	Thr
ГÀа	Pro 290		Glu	Glu	Gln	Tyr 295		Ser	Thr		Arg 300		Val	Ser	Val
Leu 305	Thr	Val	Leu	His	Gln 310	Asp	Trp	Leu	Asn	Gly 315	Lys	Glu	Tyr	Lys	Сув 320
Lys	Val	Ser	Asn	Lys 325	Ala	Leu	Pro	Ala	Pro 330	Ile	Glu	Lys	Thr	Ile 335	Ser
ГÀа	Ala	Lys	Gly 340	Gln	Pro	Arg	Glu	Pro 345	Gln	Val	Tyr	Thr	Leu 350	Pro	Pro
Ser	Arg	Asp 355	Glu	Leu	Thr	Lys	Asn 360	Gln	Val	Ser	Leu	Thr 365	Cha	Leu	Val
Lys	Gly 370	Phe	Tyr	Pro	Ser	Asp 375	Ile	Ala	Val	Glu	Trp 380	Glu	Ser	Asn	Gly
Gln 385	Pro	Glu	Asn	Asn	Tyr 390	Lys	Thr	Thr	Pro	Pro 395	Val	Leu	Asp	Ser	Asp 400
Gly	Ser	Phe	Phe	Leu 405	Tyr	Ser	ГЛа	Leu	Thr 410	Val	Asp	Lys	Ser	Arg 415	Trp

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            420
                                425
Asn His Tyr Thr Gln Lys Ser Leu Ser Leu Ser Pro Gly
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<210> SEQ ID NO 15
<211> LENGTH: 213
<212> TYPE: PRT
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<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: huML66LC Full-Length Light Chain
<400> SEQUENCE: 15
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Arg Ala Thr Ile Ser Cys Arg Ala Ser Glu Ser Val Ser Thr Leu Met
His Trp Tyr Gln Gln Lys Pro Gly Gln Gln Pro Lys Leu Leu Ile Tyr
Leu Ala Ser His Arg Glu Ser Gly Val Pro Ala Arg Phe Ser Gly Ser
                      55
Gly Ser Gly Thr Asp Phe Thr Leu Thr Ile Asp Pro Met Glu Ala Glu
Asp Thr Ala Thr Tyr Tyr Cys Gln Gln Ser Arg Asn Asp Pro Trp Thr
Phe Gly Gln Gly Thr Lys Leu Glu Leu Lys Arg Thr Val Ala Ala Pro
                              105
Ser Val Phe Ile Phe Pro Pro Ser Asp Glu Gln Leu Lys Ser Gly Thr
                           120
Ala Ser Val Val Cys Leu Leu Asn Asn Phe Tyr Pro Arg Glu Ala Lys
{\tt Val \ Gln \ Trp \ Lys \ Val \ Asp \ Asn \ Ala \ Leu \ Gln \ Ser \ Gly \ Asn \ Ser \ Glu \ Glu}
                              155
                 150
Ser Val Thr Glu Gln Asp Ser Lys Asp Ser Thr Tyr Ser Leu Ser Ser
Thr Leu Thr Leu Ser Lys Ala Asp Tyr Glu Lys His Lys Val Tyr Ala
Cys Glu Val Thr His Gln Gly Leu Ser Ser Pro Val Thr Lys Ser Phe
Asn Arg Gly Glu Cys
   210
<210> SEQ ID NO 16
<211> LENGTH: 448
<212> TYPE: PRT
<213 > ORGANISM: Artificial
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: anti-EGFR antibody immunoglobulin heavy chain
<400> SEQUENCE: 16
Gln Val Gln Leu Val Gln Ser Gly Ala Glu Val Ala Lys Pro Gly Ala
                        10
Ser Val Lys Leu Ser Cys Lys Ala Ser Gly Tyr Thr Phe Thr Ser Tyr
                                25
Trp Met Gln Trp Val Lys Gln Arg Pro Gly Gln Gly Leu Glu Cys Ile
                           40
Gly Thr Ile Tyr Pro Gly Asp Gly Asp Thr Thr Tyr Thr Gln Lys Phe
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	Gly	Lys	Ala	Thr		Thr	Ala	Asp	Lys		Ser	Ser	Thr	Ala	_
65 Met	Gln	Leu	Ser	Ser	70 Leu	Arq	Ser	Glu	Asp	75 Ser	Ala	Val	Tyr	Tyr	80 Cys
				85		J			90				•	95	-
Ala	Arg	Tyr	Asp 100	Ala	Pro	Gly	Tyr	Ala 105	Met	Asp	Tyr	Trp	Gly 110	Gln	Gly
Thr	Leu	Val 115	Thr	Val	Ser	Ser	Ala 120	Ser	Thr	Lys	Gly	Pro 125	Ser	Val	Phe
Pro	Leu 130	Ala	Pro	Ser	Ser	Lys 135	Ser	Thr	Ser	Gly	Gly 140	Thr	Ala	Ala	Leu
Gly 145	CAa	Leu	Val	Lys	Asp 150	Tyr	Phe	Pro	Glu	Pro 155	Val	Thr	Val	Ser	Trp 160
Asn	Ser	Gly	Ala	Leu 165	Thr	Ser	Gly	Val	His 170	Thr	Phe	Pro	Ala	Val 175	Leu
Gln	Ser	Ser	Gly 180	Leu	Tyr	Ser	Leu	Ser 185	Ser	Val	Val	Thr	Val 190	Pro	Ser
Ser	Ser	Leu 195	Gly	Thr	Gln	Thr	Tyr 200	Ile	Cys	Asn	Val	Asn 205	His	Lys	Pro
Ser	Asn 210	Thr	Lys	Val	Asp	Lys 215	Lys	Val	Glu	Pro	Lys 220	Ser	Сув	Asp	Lys
Thr 225	His	Thr	Cys	Pro	Pro 230	Cys	Pro	Ala	Pro	Glu 235	Leu	Leu	Gly	Gly	Pro 240
Ser	Val	Phe	Leu	Phe 245	Pro	Pro	Lys	Pro	Lys 250	Asp	Thr	Leu	Met	Ile 255	Ser
Arg	Thr	Pro	Glu 260	Val	Thr	CÀa	Val	Val 265	Val	Asp	Val	Ser	His 270	Glu	Asp
Pro	Glu	Val 275	Lys	Phe	Asn	Trp	Tyr 280	Val	Asp	Gly	Val	Glu 285	Val	His	Asn
Ala	Lys 290	Thr	ГÀз	Pro	Arg	Glu 295	Glu	Gln	Tyr	Asn	Ser 300	Thr	Tyr	Arg	Val
Val 305	Ser	Val	Leu	Thr	Val 310	Leu	His	Gln	Asp	Trp 315	Leu	Asn	Gly	ГÀз	Glu 320
Tyr	Lys	Càa	Lys	Val 325	Ser	Asn	Lys	Ala	Leu 330	Pro	Ala	Pro	Ile	Glu 335	Lys
Thr	Ile	Ser	Lys 340	Ala	Lys	Gly	Gln	Pro 345	Arg	Glu	Pro	Gln	Val 350	Tyr	Thr
Leu	Pro	Pro 355	Ser	Arg	Asp	Glu	Leu 360	Thr	Lys	Asn	Gln	Val 365	Ser	Leu	Thr
Cys	Leu 370	Val	Lys	Gly	Phe	Tyr 375	Pro	Ser	Asp	Ile	Ala 380	Val	Glu	Trp	Glu
Ser 385	Asn	Gly	Gln	Pro	Glu 390	Asn	Asn	Tyr	Lys	Thr 395	Thr	Pro	Pro	Val	Leu 400
Asp	Ser	Asp	Gly	Ser 405	Phe	Phe	Leu	Tyr	Ser 410	Lys	Leu	Thr	Val	Asp 415	Lys
Ser	Arg	Trp	Gln 420	Gln	Gly	Asn	Val	Phe 425	Ser	Cys	Ser	Val	Met 430	His	Glu
Ala	Leu	His 435	Asn	His	Tyr	Thr	Gln 440	Lys	Ser	Leu	Ser	Leu 445	Ser	Pro	Gly

<210> SEQ ID NO 17 <211> LENGTH: 214 <212> TYPE: PRT <213> ORGANISM: Artificial <220> FEATURE:

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<223> OTHER INFORMATION: anti-EGFR antibody immunoglobulin light chain
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Asp Arg Val Thr Ile Thr Cys Arg Ala Ser Gln Asp Ile Asn Asn Tyr
Leu Ala Trp Tyr Gln His Lys Pro Gly Lys Gly Pro Lys Leu Leu Ile
His Tyr Thr Ser Thr Leu His Pro Gly Ile Pro Ser Arg Phe Ser Gly
Ser Gly Ser Gly Arg Asp Tyr Ser Phe Ser Ile Ser Ser Leu Glu Pro 65 70 75 80
Glu Asp Ile Ala Thr Tyr Tyr Cys Leu Gln Tyr Asp Asn Leu Leu Tyr
Thr Phe Gly Gln Gly Thr Lys Leu Glu Ile Lys Arg Thr Val Ala Ala
                    105
Pro Ser Val Phe Ile Phe Pro Pro Ser Asp Glu Gln Leu Lys Ser Gly
                          120
Thr Ala Ser Val Val Cys Leu Leu Asn Asn Phe Tyr Pro Arg Glu Ala
                       135
Lys Val Gln Trp Lys Val Asp Asn Ala Leu Gln Ser Gly Asn Ser Gln
Glu Ser Val Thr Glu Gln Asp Ser Lys Asp Ser Thr Tyr Ser Leu Ser
Ser Thr Leu Thr Leu Ser Lys Ala Asp Tyr Glu Lys His Lys Val Tyr
                               185
Ala Cys Glu Val Thr His Gln Gly Leu Ser Ser Pro Val Thr Lys Ser
                            200
Phe Asn Arg Gly Glu Cys
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<210> SEQ ID NO 18
<211> LENGTH: 214
<212> TYPE: PRT
<213> ORGANISM: Artificial
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: anti-EGFR antibody immunoglobulin light chain
<400> SEQUENCE: 18
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Asp Arg Val Thr Ile Thr Cys Lys Ala Ser Gln Asp Ile Asn Asn Tyr
Leu Ala Trp Tyr Gln His Lys Pro Gly Lys Gly Pro Lys Leu Leu Ile
His Tyr Thr Ser Thr Leu His Pro Gly Ile Pro Ser Arg Phe Ser Gly
Ser Gly Ser Gly Arg Asp Tyr Ser Phe Ser Ile Ser Ser Leu Glu Pro
Glu Asp Ile Ala Thr Tyr Tyr Cys Leu Gln Tyr Asp Asn Leu Leu Tyr
Thr Phe Gly Gln Gly Thr Lys Leu Glu Ile Lys Arg Thr Val Ala Ala
                               105
Pro Ser Val Phe Ile Phe Pro Pro Ser Asp Glu Gln Leu Lys Ser Gly
                          120
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Thr Ala Ser Val Val Cys Leu Leu Asn Asn Phe Tyr Pro Arg Glu Ala 135 Lys Val Gln Trp Lys Val Asp Asn Ala Leu Gln Ser Gly Asn Ser Gln 150 Glu Ser Val Thr Glu Gln Asp Ser Lys Asp Ser Thr Tyr Ser Leu Ser Ser Thr Leu Thr Leu Ser Lys Ala Asp Tyr Glu Lys His Lys Val Tyr 185 Ala Cys Glu Val Thr His Gln Gly Leu Ser Ser Pro Val Thr Lys Ser Phe Asn Arg Gly Glu Cys 210 <210> SEQ ID NO 19 <211> LENGTH: 450 <212> TYPE: PRT <213 > ORGANISM: Artificial <220> FEATURE: <223> OTHER INFORMATION: anti-CD19 antibody heavy chain <400> SEQUENCE: 19 Gln Val Gln Leu Val Gln Pro Gly Ala Glu Val Val Lys Pro Gly Ala Ser Val Lys Leu Ser Cys Lys Thr Ser Gly Tyr Thr Phe Thr Ser Asn Trp Met His Trp Val Lys Gln Ala Pro Gly Gln Gly Leu Glu Trp Ile 40 Gly Glu Ile Asp Pro Ser Asp Ser Tyr Thr Asn Tyr Asn Gln Asn Phe Gln Gly Lys Ala Lys Leu Thr Val Asp Lys Ser Thr Ser Thr Ala Tyr 70 Met Glu Val Ser Ser Leu Arg Ser Asp Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys Ala Arg Gly Ser Asn Pro Tyr Tyr Tyr Ala Met Asp Tyr Trp Gly Gln 105 Gly Thr Ser Val Thr Val Ser Ser Ala Ser Thr Lys Gly Pro Ser Val 120 Phe Pro Leu Ala Pro Ser Ser Lys Ser Thr Ser Gly Gly Thr Ala Ala Leu Gly Cys Leu Val Lys Asp Tyr Phe Pro Glu Pro Val Thr Val Ser Trp Asn Ser Gly Ala Leu Thr Ser Gly Val His Thr Phe Pro Ala Val Leu Gln Ser Ser Gly Leu Tyr Ser Leu Ser Ser Val Val Thr Val Pro 185 Ser Ser Ser Leu Gly Thr Gln Thr Tyr Ile Cys Asn Val Asn His Lys 200 Pro Ser Asn Thr Lys Val Asp Lys Lys Val Glu Pro Lys Ser Cys Asp 215 Lys Thr His Thr Cys Pro Pro Cys Pro Ala Pro Glu Leu Leu Gly Gly Pro Ser Val Phe Leu Phe Pro Pro Lys Pro Lys Asp Thr Leu Met Ile 250 Ser Arg Thr Pro Glu Val Thr Cys Val Val Val Asp Val Ser His Glu 265

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Asp Pro Glu Val Lys Phe Asn Trp Tyr Val Asp Gly Val Glu Val His 280 Asn Ala Lys Thr Lys Pro Arg Glu Glu Gln Tyr Asn Ser Thr Tyr Arg 295 Val Val Ser Val Leu Thr Val Leu His Gln Asp Trp Leu Asn Gly Lys Glu Tyr Lys Cys Lys Val Ser Asn Lys Ala Leu Pro Ala Pro Ile Glu 330 Lys Thr Ile Ser Lys Ala Lys Gly Gln Pro Arg Glu Pro Gln Val Tyr Thr Leu Pro Pro Ser Arg Asp Glu Leu Thr Lys Asn Gln Val Ser Leu Thr Cys Leu Val Lys Gly Phe Tyr Pro Ser Asp Ile Ala Val Glu Trp Glu Ser Asn Gly Gln Pro Glu Asn Asn Tyr Lys Thr Thr Pro Pro Val 395 Leu Asp Ser Asp Gly Ser Phe Phe Leu Tyr Ser Lys Leu Thr Val Asp 410 Lys Ser Arg Trp Gln Gln Gly Asn Val Phe Ser Cys Ser Val Met His 425 Glu Ala Leu His Asn His Tyr Thr Gln Lys Ser Leu Ser Leu Ser Pro 440 Gly Lys 450 <210> SEQ ID NO 20 <211> LENGTH: 211 <212> TYPE: PRT <213> ORGANISM: Artificial <220> FEATURE: <223> OTHER INFORMATION: anti-CD19 antibody light chain <400> SEQUENCE: 20 Glu Ile Val Leu Thr Gln Ser Pro Ala Ile Met Ser Ala Ser Pro Gly 10 Glu Arg Val Thr Met Thr Cys Ser Ala Ser Ser Gly Val Asn Tyr Met 25 His Trp Tyr Gln Gln Lys Pro Gly Thr Ser Pro Arg Arg Trp Ile Tyr Asp Thr Ser Lys Leu Ala Ser Gly Val Pro Ala Arg Phe Ser Gly Ser Gly Ser Gly Thr Asp Tyr Ser Leu Thr Ile Ser Ser Met Glu Pro Glu Asp Ala Ala Thr Tyr Tyr Cys His Gln Arg Gly Ser Tyr Thr Phe Gly Gly Gly Thr Lys Leu Glu Ile Lys Arg Thr Val Ala Ala Pro Ser Val Phe Ile Phe Pro Pro Ser Asp Glu Gln Leu Lys Ser Gly Thr Ala Ser 120 Val Val Cys Leu Leu Asn Asn Phe Tyr Pro Arg Glu Ala Lys Val Gln 135 Trp Lys Val Asp Asn Ala Leu Gln Ser Gly Asn Ser Gln Glu Ser Val 150 155 Thr Glu Gln Asp Ser Lys Asp Ser Thr Tyr Ser Leu Ser Ser Thr Leu 165 170

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Thr Leu Ser Lys Ala Asp Tyr Glu Lys His Lys Val Tyr Ala Cys Glu Val Thr His Gln Gly Leu Ser Ser Pro Val Thr Lys Ser Phe Asn Arg 200 Gly Glu Cys 210 <210> SEQ ID NO 21 <211> LENGTH: 447 <212> TYPE: PRT <213 > ORGANISM: Artificial <220> FEATURE: <223> OTHER INFORMATION: anti-Muc1 antibody heavy chain <400> SEQUENCE: 21 Gln Ala Gln Leu Val Gln Ser Gly Ala Glu Val Val Lys Pro Gly Ala Ser Val Lys Met Ser Cys Lys Ala Ser Gly Tyr Thr Phe Thr Ser Tyr Asn Met His Trp Val Lys Gln Thr Pro Gly Gln Gly Leu Glu Trp Ile Gly Tyr Ile Tyr Pro Gly Asn Gly Ala Thr Asn Tyr Asn Gln Lys Phe Gln Gly Lys Ala Thr Leu Thr Ala Asp Thr Ser Ser Ser Thr Ala Tyr Met Gln Ile Ser Ser Leu Thr Ser Glu Asp Ser Ala Val Tyr Phe Cys Ala Arg Gly Asp Ser Val Pro Phe Ala Tyr Trp Gly Gln Gly Thr Leu 105 Val Thr Val Ser Ala Ala Ser Thr Lys Gly Pro Ser Val Phe Pro Leu 120 Ala Pro Ser Ser Lys Ser Thr Ser Gly Gly Thr Ala Ala Leu Gly Cys Leu Val Lys Asp Tyr Phe Pro Glu Pro Val Thr Val Ser Trp Asn Ser 150 155 Gly Ala Leu Thr Ser Gly Val His Thr Phe Pro Ala Val Leu Gln Ser Ser Gly Leu Tyr Ser Leu Ser Ser Val Val Thr Val Pro Ser Ser Ser Leu Gly Thr Gln Thr Tyr Ile Cys Asn Val Asn His Lys Pro Ser Asn Thr Lys Val Asp Lys Lys Val Glu Pro Lys Ser Cys Asp Lys Thr His Thr Cys Pro Pro Cys Pro Ala Pro Glu Leu Leu Gly Gly Pro Ser Val Phe Leu Phe Pro Pro Lys Pro Lys Asp Thr Leu Met Ile Ser Arg Thr Pro Glu Val Thr Cys Val Val Val Asp Val Ser His Glu Asp Pro Glu 265 Val Lys Phe Asn Trp Tyr Val Asp Gly Val Glu Val His Asn Ala Lys Thr Lys Pro Arg Glu Glu Gln Tyr Asn Ser Thr Tyr Arg Val Val Ser 295 300 Val Leu Thr Val Leu His Gln Asp Trp Leu Asn Gly Lys Glu Tyr Lys 310 315

Cys Lys Val Ser Asn Lys Ala Leu Pro Ala Pro Ile Glu Lys Thr Ile 330 Ser Lys Ala Lys Gly Gln Pro Arg Glu Pro Gln Val Tyr Thr Leu Pro 345 Pro Ser Arg Asp Glu Leu Thr Lys Asn Gln Val Ser Leu Thr Cys Leu Val Lys Gly Phe Tyr Pro Ser Asp Ile Ala Val Glu Trp Glu Ser Asn 375 Gly Gln Pro Glu Asn Asn Tyr Lys Thr Thr Pro Pro Val Leu Asp Ser Asp Gly Ser Phe Phe Leu Tyr Ser Lys Leu Thr Val Asp Lys Ser Arg Trp Gln Gln Gly Asn Val Phe Ser Cys Ser Val Met His Glu Ala Leu His Asn His Tyr Thr Gln Lys Ser Leu Ser Leu Ser Pro Gly Lys 440 <210> SEQ ID NO 22 <211> LENGTH: 213 <212> TYPE: PRT <213 > ORGANISM: Artificial <220> FEATURE: <223> OTHER INFORMATION: anti-Muc1 antibody light chain <400> SEOUENCE: 22 Glu Ile Val Leu Thr Gln Ser Pro Ala Thr Met Ser Ala Ser Pro Gly 10 Glu Arg Val Thr Ile Thr Cys Ser Ala His Ser Ser Val Ser Phe Met 25 His Trp Phe Gln Gln Lys Pro Gly Thr Ser Pro Lys Leu Trp Ile Tyr 40 Ser Thr Ser Ser Leu Ala Ser Gly Val Pro Ala Arg Phe Gly Gly Ser Gly Ser Gly Thr Ser Tyr Ser Leu Thr Ile Ser Ser Met Glu Ala Glu Asp Ala Ala Thr Tyr Tyr Cys Gln Gln Arg Ser Ser Phe Pro Leu Thr Phe Gly Ala Gly Thr Lys Leu Glu Leu Lys Arg Thr Val Ala Ala Pro Ser Val Phe Ile Phe Pro Pro Ser Asp Glu Gln Leu Lys Ser Gly Thr Ala Ser Val Val Cys Leu Leu Asn Asn Phe Tyr Pro Arg Glu Ala Lys Val Gln Trp Lys Val Asp Asn Ala Leu Gln Ser Gly Asn Ser Gln Glu 150 155 Ser Val Thr Glu Gln Asp Ser Lys Asp Ser Thr Tyr Ser Leu Ser Ser Thr Leu Thr Leu Ser Lys Ala Asp Tyr Glu Lys His Lys Val Tyr Ala 185 Cys Glu Val Thr His Gln Gly Leu Ser Ser Pro Val Thr Lys Ser Phe 200 Asn Arg Gly Glu Cys

210

<pre><211> LENGTH: 447 <212> TYPE: PRT <213> ORGANISM: Artificial</pre>												
<213 > ORGAN		Idi										
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: anti-CD33 antibody immunoglobulin heavy chai												
<400> SEQUENCE: 23												
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Ser Val Lys	Met Ser Cys 20	Lys Ala Se 25	r Gly Tyr	Thr Phe Thr 30	Ser Tyr							
Tyr Ile His 35	Trp Ile Lys	Gln Thr Pr 40	o Gly Gln	Gly Leu Glu 45	Trp Val							
Gly Val Ile 50	Tyr Pro Gly	Asn Asp As 55	p Ile Ser	Tyr Asn Gln 60	Lys Phe							
Gln Gly Lys 65	Ala Thr Leu 70	Thr Ala As	p Lys Ser 75	Ser Thr Thr	Ala Tyr 80							
Met Gln Leu	Ser Ser Leu 85	Thr Ser Gl	u Asp Ser 90	Ala Val Tyr	Tyr Cys 95							
Ala Arg Glu	Val Arg Leu 100	Arg Tyr Ph		Trp Gly Gln	Gly Thr							
Thr Val Thr	Val Ser Ser	Ala Ser Th	r Lys Gly	Pro Ser Val	Phe Pro							
Leu Ala Pro 130	Ser Ser Lys	Ser Thr Se	r Gly Gly	Thr Ala Ala 140	Leu Gly							
Cys Leu Val 145	Lys Asp Tyr 150	Phe Pro Gl	u Pro Val 155	Thr Val Ser	Trp Asn 160							
Ser Gly Ala	Leu Thr Ser 165	Gly Val Hi	s Thr Phe 170	Pro Ala Val	Leu Gln 175							
Ser Ser Gly	Leu Tyr Ser 180	Leu Ser Se		Thr Val Pro	Ser Ser							
Ser Leu Gly 195	Thr Gln Thr	Tyr Ile Cy 200	s Asn Val	Asn His Lys 205	Pro Ser							
Asn Thr Lys 210	Val Asp Lys	Lys Val Gl 215	u Pro Lys	Ser Cys Asp 220	Lys Thr							
His Thr Cys 225	Pro Pro Cys 230	Pro Ala Pr	o Glu Leu 235	Leu Gly Gly	Pro Ser 240							
Val Phe Leu	Phe Pro Pro 245	Lys Pro Ly	s Asp Thr 250	Leu Met Ile	Ser Arg 255							
Thr Pro Glu	Val Thr Cys 260	Val Val Va 26	_	Ser His Glu 270	Asp Pro							
Glu Val Lys 275	Phe Asn Trp	Tyr Val As 280	p Gly Val	Glu Val His 285	Asn Ala							
Lys Thr Lys 290	Pro Arg Glu	Glu Gln Ty 295	r Asn Ser	Thr Tyr Arg 300	Val Val							
Ser Val Leu 305	Thr Val Leu 310	His Gln As	p Trp Leu 315	Asn Gly Lys	Glu Tyr 320							
Lya Cya Lya	Val Ser Asn 325	Lys Ala Le	u Pro Ala 330	Pro Ile Glu	Lys Thr 335							
Ile Ser Lys	Ala Lys Gly 340	Gln Pro Ar	_	Gln Val Tyr 350	Thr Leu							
Pro Pro Ser 355	Arg Asp Glu	Leu Thr Ly 360	s Asn Gln	Val Ser Leu 365	Thr Cys							
Leu Val Lys 370	Gly Phe Tyr	Pro Ser As	p Ile Ala	Val Glu Trp 380	Glu Ser							

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Asn Gly Gln Pro Glu Asn Asn Tyr Lys Thr Thr Pro Pro Val Leu Asp
                  390
                                       395
Ser Asp Gly Ser Phe Phe Leu Tyr Ser Lys Leu Thr Val Asp Lys Ser
Arg Trp Gln Gln Gly Asn Val Phe Ser Cys Ser Val Met His Glu Ala
Leu His Asn His Tyr Thr Gln Lys Ser Leu Ser Leu Ser Pro Gly
<210> SEQ ID NO 24
<211> LENGTH: 219
<212> TYPE: PRT
<213> ORGANISM: Artificial
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: anti-CD33 antibody immunoglobulin light chain
<400> SEQUENCE: 24
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Glu Arg Val Thr Met Ser Cys Lys Ser Ser Gln Ser Val Phe Phe Ser
Ser Ser Gln Lys Asn Tyr Leu Ala Trp Tyr Gln Gln Ile Pro Gly Gln
                          40
Ser Pro Arg Leu Leu Ile Tyr Trp Ala Ser Thr Arg Glu Ser Gly Val50 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0
Pro Asp Arg Phe Thr Gly Ser Gly Ser Gly Thr Asp Phe Thr Leu Thr
Ile Ser Ser Val Gln Pro Glu Asp Leu Ala Ile Tyr Tyr Cys His Gln
                                 90
Tyr Leu Ser Ser Arg Thr Phe Gly Gln Gly Thr Lys Leu Glu Ile Lys
                               105
Arg Thr Val Ala Ala Pro Ser Val Phe Ile Phe Pro Pro Ser Asp Glu
Gln Leu Lys Ser Gly Thr Ala Ser Val Val Cys Leu Leu Asn Asn Phe
             135
Tyr Pro Arg Glu Ala Lys Val Gln Trp Lys Val Asp Asn Ala Leu Gln
Ser Gly Asn Ser Gln Glu Ser Val Thr Glu Gln Asp Ser Lys Asp Ser
Thr Tyr Ser Leu Ser Ser Thr Leu Thr Leu Ser Lys Ala Asp Tyr Glu
Lys His Lys Val Tyr Ala Cys Glu Val Thr His Gln Gly Leu Ser Ser
Pro Val Thr Lys Ser Phe Asn Arg Gly Glu Cys
<210> SEQ ID NO 25
<211> LENGTH: 214
<212> TYPE: PRT
<213> ORGANISM: Artificial
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: anti-CD37 antibody immunoglobulin light chain
<400> SEQUENCE: 25
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     5
Glu Arg Val Thr Ile Thr Cys Arg Ala Ser Glu Asn Ile Arg Ser Asn
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Leu Ala Trp Tyr Gln Gln Lys Pro Gly Lys Ser Pro Lys Leu Leu Val 40 Asn Val Ala Thr Asn Leu Ala Asp Gly Val Pro Ser Arg Phe Ser Gly Ser Gly Ser Gly Thr Asp Tyr Ser Leu Lys Ile Asn Ser Leu Gln Pro Glu Asp Phe Gly Thr Tyr Tyr Cys Gln His Tyr Trp Gly Thr Thr Trp Thr Phe Gly Gln Gly Thr Lys Leu Glu Ile Lys Arg Thr Val Ala Ala Pro Ser Val Phe Ile Phe Pro Pro Ser Asp Glu Gln Leu Lys Ser Gly Thr Ala Ser Val Val Cys Leu Leu Asn Asn Phe Tyr Pro Arg Glu Ala Lys Val Gln Trp Lys Val Asp Asn Ala Leu Gln Ser Gly Asn Ser Gln Glu Ser Val Thr Glu Gln Asp Ser Lys Asp Ser Thr Tyr Ser Leu Ser Ser Thr Leu Thr Leu Ser Lys Ala Asp Tyr Glu Lys His Lys Val Tyr 185 Ala Cys Glu Val Thr His Gln Gly Leu Ser Ser Pro Val Thr Lys Ser 200 Phe Asn Arg Gly Glu Cys 210 <210> SEQ ID NO 26 <211> LENGTH: 444 <212> TYPE: PRT <213> ORGANISM: artificial <220> FEATURE: <223> OTHER INFORMATION: anti-CD37 antibody immunoglobulin heavy chain <400> SEQUENCE: 26 Gln Val Gln Val Gln Glu Ser Gly Pro Gly Leu Val Ala Pro Ser Gln Thr Leu Ser Ile Thr Cys Thr Val Ser Gly Phe Ser Leu Thr Thr Ser Gly Val Ser Trp Val Arg Gln Pro Pro Gly Lys Gly Leu Glu Trp Leu Gly Val Ile Trp Gly Asp Gly Ser Thr Asn Tyr His Pro Ser Leu Lys Ser Arg Leu Ser Ile Lys Lys Asp His Ser Lys Ser Gln Val Phe Leu Lys Leu Asn Ser Leu Thr Ala Ala Asp Thr Ala Thr Tyr Tyr Cys Ala Lys Gly Gly Tyr Ser Leu Ala His Trp Gly Gln Gly Thr Leu Val Thr 105 Val Ser Ser Ala Ser Thr Lys Gly Pro Ser Val Phe Pro Leu Ala Pro 120 Ser Ser Lys Ser Thr Ser Gly Gly Thr Ala Ala Leu Gly Cys Leu Val Lys Asp Tyr Phe Pro Glu Pro Val Thr Val Ser Trp Asn Ser Gly Ala Leu Thr Ser Gly Val His Thr Phe Pro Ala Val Leu Gln Ser Ser Gly

												COII	CIII	aca	
				165					170					175	
Leu	Tyr	Ser	Leu 180	Ser	Ser	Val	Val	Thr 185	Val	Pro	Ser	Ser	Ser 190	Leu	Gly
Thr	Gln	Thr 195		Ile	CÀa	Asn	Val 200	Asn	His	Lys	Pro	Ser 205	Asn	Thr	Lys
Val	Asp 210		Lys	Val	Glu	Pro 215	Lys	Ser	Cys	Asp	Lys 220	Thr	His	Thr	Сув
Pro 225	Pro	Сув	Pro	Ala	Pro 230	Glu	Leu	Leu	Gly	Gly 235	Pro	Ser	Val	Phe	Leu 240
Phe	Pro	Pro	Lys	Pro 245		Asp	Thr	Leu	Met 250	Ile	Ser	Arg	Thr	Pro 255	Glu
Val	Thr	Cys	Val 260	Val	Val	Asp	Val	Ser 265	His	Glu	Asp	Pro	Glu 270	Val	Lys
Phe	Asn	Trp 275		Val	Asp	Gly	Val 280	Glu	Val	His	Asn	Ala 285	Lys	Thr	Lys
Pro	Arg 290		Glu	Gln	Tyr	Asn 295	Ser	Thr	Tyr	Arg	Val 300	Val	Ser	Val	Leu
Thr 305	Val	Leu	His	Gln	Asp 310	Trp	Leu	Asn	Gly	Lys 315	Glu	Tyr	ГЛа	CAa	Lys 320
Val	Ser	Asn	Lys	Ala 325	Leu	Pro	Ala	Pro	Ile 330	Glu	ГÀа	Thr	Ile	Ser 335	Lys
Ala	Lys	Gly	Gln 340	Pro	Arg	Glu	Pro	Gln 345	Val	Tyr	Thr	Leu	Pro 350	Pro	Ser
Arg	Asp	Glu 355	Leu	Thr	Lys	Asn	Gln 360	Val	Ser	Leu	Thr	Cys	Leu	Val	Lys
Gly	Phe 370		Pro	Ser	Asp	Ile 375	Ala	Val	Glu	Trp	Glu 380	Ser	Asn	Gly	Gln
Pro 385	Glu	Asn	Asn	Tyr	Lys 390	Thr	Thr	Pro	Pro	Val 395	Leu	Asp	Ser	Asp	Gly 400
Ser	Phe	Phe	Leu	Tyr 405	Ser	Lys	Leu	Thr	Val 410	Asp	Lys	Ser	Arg	Trp 415	Gln
Gln	Gly	Asn	Val 420	Phe	Ser	CAa	Ser	Val 425	Met	His	Glu	Ala	Leu 430	His	Asn
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Thr	Leu	Ser	Ile 20	Thr	CAa	Thr	Val	Ser 25	Gly	Phe	Ser	Leu	Thr 30	Thr	Ser
Gly	Val	Ser 35	Trp	Val	Arg	Gln	Pro 40	Pro	Gly	Lys	Gly	Leu 45	Glu	Trp	Leu
Gly	Val 50	Ile	Trp	Gly	Asp	Gly 55	Ser	Thr	Asn	Tyr	His 60	Ser	Ser	Leu	Lys
Ser 65	Arg	Leu	Ser	Ile	Lys 70	Lys	Asp	His	Ser	Lys 75	Ser	Gln	Val	Phe	Leu 80
ГÀа	Leu	Asn	Ser	Leu	Thr	Ala	Ala	Asp	Thr	Ala	Thr	Tyr	Tyr	Cya	Ala

-continued

	85		90	95						
Lys Gly Gly	Tyr Ser Leu 100	Ala His Trp 105	Gly Gln Gly	Thr Leu Val	Thr					
Val Ser Ser 115	Ala Ser Thr	Lys Gly Pro 120	Ser Val Phe	Pro Leu Ala 125	Pro					
Ser Ser Lys 130	Ser Thr Ser	Gly Gly Thr 135	Ala Ala Leu 140	Gly Cys Leu	Val					
Lys Asp Tyr 145	Phe Pro Glu 150	Pro Val Thr	Val Ser Trp 155	Asn Ser Gly	Ala 160					
Leu Thr Ser	Gly Val His 165	Thr Phe Pro	Ala Val Leu 170	Gln Ser Ser 175	Gly					
Leu Tyr Ser	Leu Ser Ser 180	Val Val Thr 185	Val Pro Ser	Ser Ser Leu 190	Gly					
Thr Gln Thr 195	Tyr Ile Cys	Asn Val Asn 200	His Lys Pro	Ser Asn Thr 205	Lys					
Val Asp Lys 210	Lys Val Glu	Pro Lys Ser 215	Cys Asp Lys 220	Thr His Thr	Сув					
Pro Pro Cys 225	Pro Ala Pro 230	Glu Leu Leu	Gly Gly Pro 235	Ser Val Phe	Leu 240					
Phe Pro Pro	Lys Pro Lys 245	Asp Thr Leu	Met Ile Ser 250	Arg Thr Pro 255	Glu					
Val Thr Cys	Val Val Val 260	Asp Val Ser 265	His Glu Asp	Pro Glu Val 270	ГЛа					
Phe Asn Trp 275	Tyr Val Asp	Gly Val Glu 280	Val His Asn	Ala Lys Thr 285	ГЛа					
Pro Arg Glu 290	Glu Gln Tyr	Asn Ser Thr 295	Tyr Arg Val	Val Ser Val	Leu					
Thr Val Leu 305	His Gln Asp 310	Trp Leu Asn	Gly Lys Glu 315	Tyr Lys Cys	Lys 320					
Val Ser Asn	Lys Ala Leu 325	Pro Ala Pro	Ile Glu Lys 330	Thr Ile Ser 335	ГÀз					
Ala Lys Gly	Gln Pro Arg 340	Glu Pro Gln 345	Val Tyr Thr	Leu Pro Pro 350	Ser					
Arg Asp Glu 355	Leu Thr Lys	Asn Gln Val 360	Ser Leu Thr	Cys Leu Val 365	Lys					
Gly Phe Tyr 370	Pro Ser Asp	Ile Ala Val 375	Glu Trp Glu 380	Ser Asn Gly	Gln					
Pro Glu Asn 385	Asn Tyr Lys 390	Thr Thr Pro	Pro Val Leu 395	Asp Ser Asp	Gly 400					
Ser Phe Phe	Leu Tyr Ser 405	Lys Leu Thr	Val Asp Lys 410	Ser Arg Trp 415	Gln					
Gln Gly Asn	Val Phe Ser 420	Cys Ser Val 425	Met His Glu	Ala Leu His 430	Asn					
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1				5					10					15		
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His	Trp	Tyr 35	Gln	Gln	Lys	Pro	Gly 40	Gln	Ser	Pro	Lys	Arg 45	Trp	Ile	Tyr	
Asp	Thr 50	Ser	Asn	Leu	Pro	Tyr 55	Gly	Val	Pro	Ala	Arg 60	Phe	Ser	Gly	Ser	
Gly 65	Ser	Gly	Thr	Ser	Tyr 70	Ser	Leu	Thr	Ile	Ser 75	Ser	Met	Glu	Ala	Glu 80	
Asp	Ala	Ala	Thr	Tyr 85	Tyr	CAa	Gln	Gln	Trp 90	Ser	Asp	Asn	Pro	Pro 95	Thr	
Phe	Gly	Gln	Gly 100	Thr	ГÀв	Leu	Glu	Ile 105	Lys	Arg	Thr	Val	Ala 110	Ala	Pro	
Ser	Val	Phe 115	Ile	Phe	Pro	Pro	Ser 120	Asp	Glu	Gln	Leu	Lys 125	Ser	Gly	Thr	
Ala	Ser 130	Val	Val	CAa	Leu	Leu 135	Asn	Asn	Phe	Tyr	Pro 140	Arg	Glu	Ala	Lys	
145					Asp 150					155					160	
				165	Asp				170					175		
			180		Lys		-	185		-		-	190	-		
	Arg	195			Gln	GIY	200	ser	ser	PIO	Val	205	гув	ser	Pne	
ABII	210	GIY	GIU	СуБ												
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				ORMA'	TION	: an	ti-CI)37 a	antil	oody	imm	unog	lobul	lin 1	neavy	chain
< 400)> SI	EQUEI	ICE :	29												
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Ser	Leu	Ser	Leu 20	Thr	CAa	Thr	Val	Ser 25	Gly	Tyr	Ser	Ile	Thr 30	Ser	Gly	
Phe	Ala	Trp 35	His	Trp	Ile	Arg	Gln 40	His	Pro	Gly	Asn	Lуз 45	Leu	Glu	Trp	
Met	Gly 50	Tyr	Ile	Leu	Tyr	Ser 55	Gly	Ser	Thr	Val	Tyr 60	Ser	Pro	Ser	Leu	
Lys 65	Ser	Arg	Ile	Ser	Ile 70	Thr	Arg	Asp	Thr	Ser 75	Lys	Asn	His	Phe	Phe 80	
Leu	Gln	Leu	Asn	Ser 85	Val	Thr	Ala	Ala	Asp 90	Thr	Ala	Thr	Tyr	Tyr 95	CÀa	
Ala	Arg	Gly	Tyr 100	Tyr	Gly	Tyr	Gly	Ala 105	Trp	Phe	Ala	Tyr	Trp 110	Gly	Gln	
Gly	Thr	Leu 115	Val	Thr	Val	Ser	Ala 120	Ala	Ser	Thr	Lys	Gly 125	Pro	Ser	Val	

-continued

Phe	Pro 130	Leu	Ala	Pro	Ser	Ser 135	Lys	Ser	Thr	Ser	Gly 140	Gly	Thr	Ala	Ala
Leu 145	Gly	Cys	Leu	Val	Lys 150	Asp	Tyr	Phe	Pro	Glu 155	Pro	Val	Thr	Val	Ser 160
Trp	Asn	Ser	Gly	Ala 165	Leu	Thr	Ser	Gly	Val 170	His	Thr	Phe	Pro	Ala 175	Val
Leu	Gln	Ser	Ser 180	Gly	Leu	Tyr	Ser	Leu 185	Ser	Ser	Val	Val	Thr 190	Val	Pro
Ser	Ser	Ser 195	Leu	Gly	Thr	Gln	Thr 200	Tyr	Ile	Cys	Asn	Val 205	Asn	His	Lys
Pro	Ser 210	Asn	Thr	Lys	Val	Asp 215	Lys	Lys	Val	Glu	Pro 220	Lys	Ser	Cys	Aap
Lys 225	Thr	His	Thr	Cys	Pro 230	Pro	Cys	Pro	Ala	Pro 235	Glu	Leu	Leu	Gly	Gly 240
Pro	Ser	Val	Phe	Leu 245	Phe	Pro	Pro	Lys	Pro 250	Lys	Asp	Thr	Leu	Met 255	Ile
Ser	Arg	Thr	Pro 260	Glu	Val	Thr	Cys	Val 265	Val	Val	Asp	Val	Ser 270	His	Glu
Asp	Pro	Glu 275	Val	Lys	Phe	Asn	Trp 280	Tyr	Val	Asp	Gly	Val 285	Glu	Val	His
Asn	Ala 290	Lys	Thr	Lys	Pro	Arg 295	Glu	Glu	Gln	Tyr	Asn 300	Ser	Thr	Tyr	Arg
Val 305	Val	Ser	Val	Leu	Thr 310	Val	Leu	His	Gln	Asp 315	Trp	Leu	Asn	Gly	Lys 320
Glu	Tyr	Lys	Сув	Lys 325	Val	Ser	Asn	Lys	Ala 330	Leu	Pro	Ala	Pro	Ile 335	Glu
Lys	Thr	Ile	Ser 340	Lys	Ala	ГÀз	Gly	Gln 345	Pro	Arg	Glu	Pro	Gln 350	Val	Tyr
Thr	Leu	Pro 355	Pro	Ser	Arg	Asp	Glu 360	Leu	Thr	Lys	Asn	Gln 365	Val	Ser	Leu
Thr	Cys 370	Leu	Val	Lys	Gly	Phe 375	Tyr	Pro	Ser	Asp	Ile 380	Ala	Val	Glu	Trp
Glu 385	Ser	Asn	Gly	Gln	Pro 390	Glu	Asn	Asn	Tyr	Lys 395	Thr	Thr	Pro	Pro	Val 400
Leu	Asp	Ser	Asp	Gly 405	Ser	Phe	Phe	Leu	Tyr 410	Ser	Lys	Leu	Thr	Val 415	Asp
Lys	Ser	Arg	Trp 420	Gln	Gln	Gly	Asn	Val 425	Phe	Ser	СЛа	Ser	Val 430	Met	His
Glu	Ala	Leu 435	His	Asn	His	Tyr	Thr 440	Gln	Lys	Ser	Leu	Ser 445	Leu	Ser	Pro

We claim:

Gly

1. A compound represented by any one of the following 55 formulas:

-continued
$$\mathbb{R}^{e} \xrightarrow{N} \mathbb{R}^{s} \xrightarrow{S} \mathbb{Z}^{s}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
Y \\
X \\
N \\
O\\
O\\
O\\
O\\
Me
\end{array}$$
45

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

the double line == between N and C represents a single bond or a double bond, provided that when it is a double bond, X is absent and Y is —H, and when it is a single bond, X is selected from —H, or an amine protecting group;

Y is selected from —H, —OR, —OCOR', —SR, —NR'R", —SO₃M, —SO₂M or —OSO₃M, wherein M is —H or a cation;

R is —H, an optionally substituted linear, branched or cyclic alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl having from 1 to 10 carbon atoms or a PEG group — $(CH_2CH_2O)_n$ — R^c , wherein n is an integer from 1 to 24, and R^c is a linear or branched alkyl having 1 to 4 carbon atoms;

R' and R" are the same or different, and are selected from —H, —OR, —NRR^{g'}, —COR, an optionally substituted linear, branched or cyclic alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl having from 1 to 10 carbon atoms, an optionally substituted aryl having from 6 to 18 carbon atoms, an optionally substituted 3- to 18-membered heterocyclic ring having 1 to 6 heteroatoms selected from O, S, N and P, a PEG group—(CH₂CH₂O)_n—R^c, wherein n is an integer from 1 to 24, preferably n is 2, 4 or 8; and R^{g'} is —H, an optionally substituted linear, branched or cyclic alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl having from 1 to 10 carbon atoms or a PEG group—(CH₂CH₂O)_n—R^c;

X' is selected from the group consisting of —H, —OH, an optionally substituted linear, branched or cyclic alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl having from 1 to 10 carbon atoms, phenyl, and an amine-protecting group;

Y' is selected from the group consisting of —H, an oxo group, an optionally substituted linear, branched or cyclic alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl having from 1 to 10 carbon atoms:

R' is a linear or branched alkylene having 1 to 6 carbon atoms, optionally substituted with a charged substituent or an ionizable group Q;

 R^e is —H or a linear or branched alkyl having 1 to 6 carbon atoms:

G is selected from —CH— or —N—;

 Z^s is —H, —SR^d, or is selected from any one of the following formulas:

$$(CH_2)_q$$
 $(CH_2)_q$
 $(CH_3)_q$
 $(CH_3)_q$

$$G$$
 (a5) G (a5) G (a5) G (b) G (b) G (b) G (c) G (c) G (b) G (c) G

(a6)

$$\rho_{\rm p}$$
 $\rho_{\rm p}$ ρ_{\rm

$$\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{L}}$$
 $\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{L}}$ $\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{L}}$

q is an integer from 1 to 5;

R^d is a linear or branched alkyl having 1 to 6 carbon atoms or is selected from phenyl, nitrophenyl, dinitrophenyl, carboxynitrophenyl, pyridyl and nitropyridyl;

n' is an integer from 2 to 6;

U is —H or —SO₃M; and M is —H or a cation.

2. The compound of claim **1**, wherein R^e is —H or -Me.

3. The compound of claim 2, wherein R^x is $-(CH_2)_p$ (CR^fR^g) —, wherein R^f and R^g are each independently selected from —H or a linear or branched alkyl having 1 to 4 carbon atoms; and p is 0, 1, 2 or 3.

4. The compound of claim 2, wherein R^x is a linear or branched alkylene having 1 to 4 carbon atoms substituted 15 with a charged substituent or an ionizable group Q.

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5. The compound of claim 3, wherein the double line == between N and C represents a double bond.

6. The compound of claim 3, wherein the double line == between N and C represents a single bond; X is —H or an 5 amine protecting group and Y is selected from —H, —SO₃M, —OH, —OMe, —OEt or —NHOH.

7. The compound of claim 1, wherein:

the double line == between N and C represents a single bond or a double bond, provided that when it is a double bond X is absent and Y is -H, and when it is a single bond, X is —H; Y is —OH or —SO₃M;

M is —H or a pharmaceutically acceptable cation;

X' and Y' are both —H; and

G is C.

8. The compound of claim 1, wherein the compound is represented by the following formula:

$$\begin{array}{c} & & & \\ & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & &$$

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein M is H⁺, Na⁺or K⁺.

9. A conjugate comprising a cytotoxic compound and a cell-binding agent (CBA), wherein the cytotoxic compound is covalently linked to the CBA, and wherein said cytotoxic compound is represented by any one of the following formulas:

$$\begin{array}{c} & & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & \\ & & & \\ & & \\ & & & \\ & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & \\ & & &$$

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

the double line == between N and C represents a single bond or a double bond, provided that when it is a double bond, X is absent and Y is —H, and when it is a single bond, X is selected from —H, or an amine protecting group;

Y is selected from —H, —OR, —OCOR', —SR, —NR'R", —SO₃M, —SO₂M or —OSO₃M, wherein M is —H or a cation:

R is —H, an optionally substituted linear, branched or cyclic alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl having from 1 to 10 carbon atoms or a PEG group —(CH₂CH₂O)_n—R^c, wherein n is an integer from 1 to 24, and R^c is a linear or branched alkyl having 1 to 4 carbon atoms;

R' and R" are the same or different, and are selected from —H, —OR, —NRR^{g'}, —COR, an optionally substituted linear, branched or cyclic alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl having from 1 to 10 carbon atoms, an optionally substituted aryl having from 6 to 18 carbon atoms, an optionally substituted 3- to 18-membered heterocyclic ring

having 1 to 6 heteroatoms selected from O, S, N and P, a PEG group— $(CH_2CH_2O)_n$ — R^c , wherein n is an integer from 1 to 24, preferably n is 2, 4 or 8; and $R^{g'}$ is —H, an optionally substituted linear, branched or cyclic alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl having from 1 to 10 carbon atoms or a PEG group— $(CH_2CH_2O)_n$ — R^c ;

X' is selected from the group consisting of —H, —OH, an optionally substituted linear, branched or cyclic alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl having from 1 to 10 carbon atoms, phenyl, and an amine-protecting group;

Y' is selected from the group consisting of —H, an oxo group, an optionally substituted linear, branched or cyclic alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl having from 1 to 10 carbon atoms;

R^x is a linear or branched alkylene having 1 to 6 carbon atoms, optionally substituted with a charged substituent or an ionizable group Q;

 R^e is —H or a linear or branched alkyl having 1 to 6 carbon atoms:

G is selected from —CH— or —N—;

 Z^{s1} is selected from any one of the following formulas:

$$\operatorname{\mathsf{CH}}_{2)q} = \operatorname{\mathsf{CH}}_{2} \operatorname{\mathsf{CH}}_{2}$$

wherein:

q is an integer from 1 to 5;

 R^d is a linear or branched alkyl having 1 to 6 carbon atoms or is selected from phenyl, nitrophenyl, dinitrophenyl, carboxynitrophenyl, pyridyl and nitropyridyl;

n is an integer from 2 to 6;

U is —H or —SO₃M; and

M is —H+ or a cation.

10. The conjugate of claim 9, wherein R^e is —H or -Me.

11. The conjugate of claim 10, wherein R^x is $-(CH_2)_p$ — (CR^fR^g) —, wherein R^f and R^g are each independently 65 selected from —H or a linear or branched alkyl having 1 to 4 carbon atoms; and p is 0, 1, 2 or 3.

12. The conjugate of claim 10, wherein R^x is a linear or branched alkylene having 1 to 4 carbon atoms substituted with a charged substituent or an ionizable group Q.

13. The conjugate of claim 11, wherein the double line == between N and C represents a double bond.

14. The conjugate of claim 11, wherein Y is selected from –H, —SO₃M, —OH, —OMe, —OEt or —NHOH.

15. The conjugate of claim 9, wherein:

the double line == between N and C represents a single bond or a double bond, provided that when it is a double bond X is absent and Y is —H, and when it is a single bond, X is —H; Y is —OH or —SO₃M;

M is —H or a pharmaceutically acceptable cation;

X' and Y' are both —H; and

G is C.

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16. The conjugate of claim 9, wherein the conjugate is represented by any one of the following formulas:

`OMe

MeO

359

-continued

-

MeO

408

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

17. The conjugate of claim 9, wherein the cell-binding agent (CBA) binds to target cells selected from tumor cells, virus infected cells, microorganism infected cells, parasite 50 infected cells, autoimmune cells, activated cells, myeloid cells, activated T-cells, B cells, or melanocytes; cells expressing the CD4, CD6, CD19, CD20, CD22, CD30, CD33, CD37, CD38, CD40, CD44, CD56, EpCAM, CanAg, CALLA, or Her-2 antigens; Her-3 antigens; or cells expressing insulin 55 growth factor receptor, epidermal growth factor receptor, and folate receptor.

18. The conjugate of claim 9, wherein the cell-binding agent is an antibody, a single chain antibody, an antibody fragment that specifically binds to the target cell, a monoclonal antibody, a single chain monoclonal antibody, or a monoclonal antibody fragment that specifically binds to a target cell, a chimeric antibody, a chimeric antibody fragment that specifically binds to the target cell, a domain antibody, a domain antibody fragment that specifically binds to the target cell, a lymphokine, a hormone, a vitamin, a growth factor, a colony stimulating factor, or a nutrient-transport molecule.

19. A pharmaceutical composition comprising the conjugate of claim 9 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

20. A method of inhibiting abnormal cell growth or treating a proliferative disorder, an autoimmune disorder, destructive bone disorder, infectious disease, viral disease, fibrotic disease, neurodegenerative disorder, pancreatitis or kidney disease in a mammal, comprising administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a conjugate of claim 9, and optionally, a chemotherapeutic agent.